

Chapter 1

Privet Drive no More

Lying on his bed, hot, sticky, and covered in sweat, lied the sixteen year old Harry Potter. Opening his eyes to the pitch blackness of his tiny little bedroom, he glanced over to see what time it was. The clock read two forty six in the morning and Harry let out a long sigh. This was getting old he thought. It had been three weeks since the Department of Mysteries fiasco and he had been sulking in his summer time prison cell ever since.

Sitting up and turning on the lamp on his bedside table, he took a glance around his room. Standing up and wishing he could take a shower to get all the sweat off of him, he noticed Hedwig locked in her cage in the corner. "I'm sorry girl. I forgot to let you out before I fell asleep," said Harry as he opened up her cage so she could go out flying. Hedwig jumped out and landed on Harry's shoulder and she started to nip at his ear.

"I really am sorry girl" he said trying to save himself from her angry tirade. Hedwig started to calm down as Harry looked her right in the eyes as he spoke. "I've really made a mess of things girl," Harry said as he was stroking her feathers. "It seems just when I think I have things figured out, something happens or some one I love and depend on gets ripped away!" Hedwig hooted softly as if to say I know, but I'm still here with you. Harry smiled, still petting Hedwig while walking over to the window he said, " At least I still have you girl. You take care of yourself out there tonight, I just cant afford to lose you too okay?"

Hedwig hooted softly and nibbled on his ear again except this time much softer. She jumped off his shoulder and took flight out the small semi-barred window to freedom. Watching her fly away, getting smaller and smaller and enjoying her freedom until he could not see her any more. He turned around and sat down on his bed, staring across the room with a blank look on his face then he let out a long sigh. "I wish... I wish...." sighing again he thought out loud, "I just wish I had some control over my own life!"

"I can help you with that Master Harry Potter Sir"! Harry, who was startled fell backwards off the bed and landed with a loud thump on the floor. Jumping up with his wand already in hand and pointing in the direction from which he heard the voice, said "Who's there? Show yourself now or those will be the last words you ever speak." in such a menacing way it would have scared most Death Eaters. "I'm sorry for scaring you sir" said the strange voice in the shadows of the dimly lit tiny bedroom. Walking out into the light where Harry could see who was speaking. DOBBY!! said Harry, relieved that he wasn't being attacked by some Death Eaters.

"What in the world are you doing here?" said Harry as he was putting his wand back into his holster. "I am here to help my Master achieve anything and everything he wishes of course," Dobby said as if it was clear as day. "Dobby, how many times do I have to tell you, I'm not your Master, I'm just Harry, your friend." Dobby just stood there in shock as his eyes started to fill with tears. Harry realizing this could get out of hand real quick, walked over and knelt down in front of Dobby.

"I want to thank you Dobby for always looking out for my best interests which includes keeping really quite while I am here at Privet Drive, so I don't get in more trouble with my good for nothing Relatives. Do you understand Dobby," said Harry as quietly as he could. Dobby nodding his head that he understood, and slowly he started to calm down to Harry's relief. "I can help you with your wish Master Harry Potter Sir," said Dobby while looking up at the frown that started to grow on Harry's face, Dobby realized his mistake and attempted to correct it. "I mean Just friend Harry Potter Sir" said Dobby with a confused look on his face looking to Harry for justification. "Dobby," said Harry, "my friends call me Harry." Dobby started to smile as his eyes welled up again with tears. "Now lets talk about that wish you said you could help me with," said Harry with a mischievous smile.

"Well Master" said Dobby in a whispered voice, "you said you wanted to take control over your life and I can help you with that." "How exactly do you plan to help me do that Dobby?" Asked Harry. "We House Elves have many powers that wizards don't have, taking control over your life is easy," said Dobby with a little smile. "Oh really,

and just how do you know that?" said Harry. "Has Master forgotten already? Dobby started taking control over his own life just after your second year at Hogwarts, although I did have a little help from the most courageous and most honorable wizard of all time." As Harry sat there, staring at Dobby, it finally dawned on him. Dobby was absolutely right, he did start taking control over his own life. "You know Dobby," said Harry with a slight smile, "you and me have allot more in common then I once thought. We both were just puppets on a string, The Malfoy's pulled your strings and Dumbledore, The Dursley's, The Order of the Phoenix, and just about everybody is pulling mine."

An eerie silence took over the small bedroom on Privet Drive for several minutes. One young wizard and his most loyal friend, a House elf, sat there just staring into each others eyes until Harry broke the silence. "I've had enough!! I will no longer be anyone's puppet," taking a glance at the clock Harry continued, "starting right now I'm cutting the strings." There was a fire in Harry's eyes that Dobby, or anyone for that matter, has ever seen before. Dobby with a huge grin spreading across his face, asked Harry the one question that no one has ever asked him before. Not Ron, Hermione, Dumbledore, Sirius, Remus, not anyone. Dobby asked Harry with the most sincere look on his face, "What is it that Harry Potter wants?"

Harry just sat there, staring back at Dobby with a sort of blank look on his face. He couldn't believe it, here was the first person to ask him what HE wanted. No demands of him, no expectations, just a sincere question. The fact that Harry had no idea how to answer that particular question wasn't what was disturbing him the most. What really had Harry in a ponder, was that the first person to ask him what he really wanted, was not his best friend or a girlfriend or even a parental figure, no it was a simple little House Elf. A small smile started to grow across the young wizards face. For the first time in a long time, Harry Potter, the Famous Boy-Who-Lived, didn't feel so all alone. "You know Dobby, I'm not really sure," said Harry with that smile still growing across his face, "but with your help, I think I will figure it all out."

BANG, BANG, BANG, Harry rolling off of his bed onto the floor, using his bed for cover and withdrawing his wand displaying his Seeker fast

reflexes. With his wand still pointing at his bedroom door, crouched low just behind his bed, he heard the noise again. BANG, BANG, BANG! After only a few seconds to gain his bearings and a glance over at the clock, Harry realized that he had slept straight through to four o'clock in the afternoon and that noise was probably the Dursley's extremely upset because none of his chores were done. "Who is it?" asked Harry assertively. "Who the bloody hell do you think it is boy, get out here now!" Came Harry's answer. Standing up from his crouched position behind his bed, Harry walked over to open the door when he remembered some of his conversation with Dobby last night. With a small smirk on his face, Harry Opened the door to a red faced Vernon Dursley.

"Who do you think you are boy sleeping in like your on some vacation or something," screamed Vernon as he rose a fist to strike Harry across his face. Harry, surprisingly didn't flinch, in fact he looked down right happy and never attempted to move away from the punch. As Vernon's punch got closer and closer to hitting Harry, suddenly Vernon Flew backwards with a bang and slammed into the wall of the hallway. Standing up and rubbing his right arm with a face that clearly expressed the amount of pain he was feeling. Vernon's grimace changed quickly to fear at Harry's menacing voice that spoke as he walked out of his room and closed the gap between them.

"I think I have taken quite enough of your abuse over the years Vernon, time for me to start inflicting some of my own." "But..But... you can't use magic outside of school," said Dursley in the most scared tone Harry had ever heard from his Uncle before. With his wand still in his hand, Harry raised his arm and pointed it menacingly at Vernon's chest. Oh man I'm going to love this, Harry thought happily. "Really Vernon? Care to test that theory again?" As Harry walked closer to his Uncle, he stammered backwards through the hallway and almost fell down the stairs, just barely catching his balance on the railing. " Please don't hurt me, I...I...You...I mean...You don't have to do any more chores, how's that?" Laughing at how cowardly his big bad Uncle had become in the last ten seconds, Harry was living his most fondest dream.

" Why shouldn't I hurt you Uncle? I got an idea, why don't I just hurt you...lets say twenty percent the amount that you hurt me over my

sixteen years of living here. I think that sounds more then fair...wouldn't you agree Uncle?" A ghastly sick colored green shade, quickly spread across Vernon's face at the thought of what twenty percent, of what he had done to the boy would feel like. "Really Harry...is this necessary?" Stammered Vernon as he slowly descended the stairs into the living room. "But Uncle... I want to know what it feels like to beat a helpless individual into submission the way you so masterfully have done to me over the years. Does it feel good? Do you feel powerful? Treating me like your very own slave, making me cook tons of food for you and your fat ass wife and son while watching me starve myself to sleep! Truly it must feel amazing because you've been doing it for years...right?" Harry let the question linger in the air as Dudley and Petunia walked in from the kitchen, startled frozen at the scene that was playing out before them.

"Perfect timing lovely family, I was just mentioning to my dear Uncle about a few changes we will be having around here. Starting with rule number one... what was it again Uncle?" Harry asked his confused stuttering Uncle. "Um...ah...OH...yes No more chores? Vernon replied not quite sure this was want Harry wanted. " Very good Uncle", said Harry as he lowered his wand and calmly walked over to the couch and sat down. Waiting only a moment, Harry nodded at the empty couch across from him, and within seconds, it was filled with three fat ass Dursley's. Harry smirked, why didn't he do this years ago?

Closing his bedroom door, Harry leaned back against it as his huge grin split into a vivacious roar of laughter. Sliding down the door until he was sitting on the floor still laughing his head off, he was interrupted by a small voice. "That went perfectly Master, almost exactly how we planned." Said Dobby with just as wide a grin on his face as was Harry's. Finally slowing down, still holding his sides, Harry spoke. "I thought I was going to lose it right in the middle of playing the tough guy routine and start rolling on the floor laughing, they would of thought I went bonkers for sure at that. I'll tell you Dobby, I wasn't sure that spell you put on me was going to work or not. I mean, Vernon's fist got so close to my nose, I could actually smell the dirt under his finger nails. How did you know he wouldn't try to hit me again after that?"

Dobby answered, "I wasn't really sure, but don't worry Master, I was watching the whole time and if he tried again to..." but Dobby was cut off by Harry. "I know Dobby and really I thank you, I'm just glad that Dudley didn't need more proof that I could do magic, because this whole little trickery only works if they think I can do magic without getting caught. Now, before we start with stage two of this little plan we concocted, I need to do something first." Dobby staring At Harry with a slight confused look on his face as Harry stood up from his sitting position in front of the door and walked to stand right before Dobby. Placing his right hand on Dobby's head, Dobby began to shake for now he was living his most fondest dream.

"I, Harry Potter, pledge my magical core to bind itself to the most honorable House Elf Dobby, and promise to always treat him with respect and honor. Dobby, welcome to the house of Potter!" The tiny bedroom on Privet Drive lit up in a blinding glow so gold bright Harry had to close his eyes. Through his eyelids, Harry saw the glow, grow brighter and brighter, until it peaked and the flash was gone. Blinking rapidly, trying to get his vision back, Harry looked onto Dobby with a smile. Still staring at Harry, Dobby realized that he had never witnessed a wizard bonding that was so strong. Harry knew that Dobby was a little surprised by his gesture, and figured he should probably remind him that he needed to finalize the bond.

"Um Dobby? I Think you need to say something to ummm finalize the bond." Dobby, still staring at Harry finally spoke up and said: "I, Dobby, acknowledge the wizard oath given by Harry Potter, and I pledge to always serve and to protect the house of Potter,till death!" Again, the room filled with a blinding light although this light was slightly green in color, and only grew to about half the brightness that Harry's oath did. After the light faded, a sudden stillness filled the room. Breaking the silence, Harry addressed Dobby.

"Now that you are an official member of the noble house of Potter," Puffing out his chest to make himself seem more important, he continued; "we have to do something about your wardrobe." As Harry's smile grew across his face, Dobby replied, "look who's talking." Looking down at his own wardrobe, Harry couldn't help busting up laughing again. "touché my friend, touché. But not to worry, for I think our phase two of the plan will take care of that, won't it?"

Dobby smiled and said, "Most definitely Master." Grabbing Harry's hand, the two of them vanished in thin air.

Chapter 2

Gringotts

Harry and Dobby arrived in Diagon Alley, right in front of Gringotts Wizarding Bank with a silent pop. It was late in the afternoon and there were only a few wizards walking around the alley. Not wanting to be noticed, Harry hurriedly entered the Wizarding Bank with Dobby right by his side.

Walking inside, Harry noticed that there wasn't anyone in the lobby other than Goblins. As they passed several Goblins sitting at their work stations, Harry realized they were all staring at Dobby with a toothy grin. Not thinking too much of it at this point, Harry headed to the branch manager's office. Having only heard of the branch manager through random conversations between Remus and Sirius, Harry hoped he didn't end up accidentally offending the Goblin.

Walking up to the extravagant counter top, Harry approached the Goblin. "I would like to speak to the Branch Manager regarding some special circumstances regarding my account." Looking down at the small wizard, the Goblin was about to speak when he noticed the House Elf standing next to the young wizard. Harry noticed the look of curiosity that flashed across the Goblin's face, looking to his left, he realized the curiosity was once again directed at Dobby.

Getting irritated Harry spoke up again, "look, I know I don't have an appointment but this is really important." The Goblin, finally taking his eyes off of Dobby, addressed Harry. "Is this your House Elf?" Glancing down at his watch, Harry knew that the shops in Diagon Alley were going to be closing soon, and he had too much that needed to be done. "Look, if the Branch Manager is too busy to speak to one of his customers, then maybe I will no longer be one of them."

Turning on his heel, Harry began to walk away when he paused and glanced over his shoulder, "Come Dobby, I will let you handle the closing of all the Potter accounts in the morning." The Goblin, sitting in his chair with the smuggest grin on his face, looking like he could care less that a wizard was closing his account, that was until he heard the name Potter.

Still glancing over his shoulder watching Dobby walking towards him, Harry watched the Goblin fall right off his chair and vanished behind the counter with a thud. With a huge smile spreading across his face, Harry waited until Dobby was by his side before continuing his walk back to the main door.

The Goblin rushed around to the other side of the counter and practically tackled Harry to stop him from leaving. "Please Mister Potter, Do not leave, and for Heaven's sake....please do NOT close your accounts with Gringotts."

Harry startled by the Goblin grabbing him around his legs, Harry was about to say something when the Goblin was lifted off of Harry by force and flew across the floor, landing close to the very counter that he worked at. Not knowing who or why the Goblin was attacked, Harry withdrew his wand, crouching down in attack mode, ready for anything. As a few of the Goblins started to surround Harry with menacing looks, Harry realized, he was in serious trouble. Standing up and stowing away his wand in a gesture that clearly spoke he meant to do no harm, The Goblins still closed in looking even more menacing.

Harry nervously spoke, "I mean you no harm, I didn't attack the Branch Manager's assistant, I..." but Harry was cut off by Dobby who suddenly appeared in front of Harry with a very protective look on his face that Harry hadn't seen before. " It was I who attacked the Branch Manager's assistant, I wouldn't have had to if he would have maintained a professional distance from my Master."

The Goblins, not slowing down or backing off, kept approaching, closing in on Dobby now that they had a confession on who attacked one of their own. Still standing in a protective stance in front of Harry, raising both hands, a greenish gold shield, leapt forth from Dobby's hands and formed around himself and Harry just before a plethora of spells left from the Goblins, heading straight for Harry and Dobby.

Harry attempted to dive and roll away in order to dodge the majority of the spells, that was until he realized he couldn't move. Every single spell that was shot at them was easily deflected away, slamming

against counters and desks as paper flew everywhere and smashed up wood chips scattered across the lobby entrance.

Dobby, who wasn't the least bit tired at the magical outburst he just released, just continued standing there, shield held firmly in place, looking so fierce that Harry feared anyone who crossed Dobby's path at that moment. The Goblins just stood there amazed, that a single House Elf could stop at least twenty powerful Goblins with such ease, this scared the Goblins to no end.

The Goblins hesitated, worried that this powerful House Elf was going to go on the offensive, The Goblins started to slowly retreat until a loud deep voice interrupted the scene, startling everyone at the newcomers sudden appearance. Immediately all the Goblins dropped to their knees as the newcomer spoke again. "What in Glabrock's name is going on in here?"

Harry, who turned in the direction of the strangers voice, realized immediately that this was the Branch Manager of Gringotts. Thinking hard, trying to figure a way out of this mess, Harry began to put a plan together in his head and was about to speak when he was interrupted by the Branch Manager.

"Mister Potter, my most humble apologizes," as he waved his right hand, the twenty Goblins rose up into the air and flew in a single file line, flat against the wall. Being held against the wall by force, the Goblins just grunted painfully as the Branch Manager spoke again. "Borak..." the Branch Manager's assistant flew Over from where he was lying on the floor from Dobby's attack, to right in front of the Branch Manager. "Can you explain to me why you approved stage four of our defenses against one of our most honorable clients? I would hate to have to kill you Borak, good assistants are so hard to find these days."

Harry just standing there with Dobby in front of him decided to intervene on behalf of Borak. "Dobby, release the shield" Harry said forcefully. As Dobby instantly did what he was ordered, Harry calmly walked up to stand in front of the Branch Manager before speaking again.

"I am truly sorry for causing so much trouble, but this was all just one big misunderstanding. I will admit that those warriors you have here," as Harry waved his hand to mention the twenty Goblins that were still crunched flat against the wall, "were a little too eager to attack. I clearly stated that I meant no harm and had lowered my wand, if they bothered to do a little investigating, they would have clearly discovered that I'm no threat to the Goblins.

But as for Borak, He was a little incapacitated to give any such order to attack me, and for that I am completely to blame. My friend here, (as Harry waved his hand back towards Dobby) mistakenly judged Borak's eagerness for violence, and as we can see here, (waving his hand in a sweeping motion across the Lobby) he is quite protective of me. As I take full responsibility for the actions of my friend, I would like to pay for all the repairs that are needed."

The Branch Manager Whiplock, was a little surprised, but only a little, as he had heard remarkable stories about the young wizard standing before him. "I thank you for your honesty and integrity Mister Potter, but your gold is not needed to fix this, do I have your permission to deal with the punishments of my warriors, or would you like to handle those matters personally?" asked Whiplock.

" No thank you, I am confident that you will get the message across clearly," replied Harry. "As you wish Mister Potter, now that we cleared all this mess up, why don't we retire to my office to discuss further business, Borak clean this mess up and bring us some drinks, This way Mister Potter." Whiplock motioned the way to his office. As Harry and Dobby followed towards Whiplocks office, they could hear Borak yelling at the Goblin warriors, slapping and kicking them as they passed by him.

Harry walked into Whiplock's office and took a seat at the elaborate oak desk, with Dobby standing behind him. As Whiplock sat down in his chair, Harry motioned for Dobby to sit next to him. "So Mister Potter, what can Gringotts do for you today" began Whiplock. "Please Mister Branch Manager Whiplock, Just call me Harry." "Only if you call me Whiplock" said the Branch Manager with a smirk. "Deal" Harry answered quickly "Now on to the business, I am sure you are aware that I am the last and sole heir to the Potter throne, as such it is

written that I can not claim my position as Head of the House of Potter until I turn seventeen. Thus granting me access only to my trust vault until such time."

Whiplock simply nodded as his hands came together at the fingers as his elbows rested on his desk. Harry Continued, " It is also written that such age guidelines can be removed by a Branch Manager or a Goblin Council Member upon extraordinary circumstances."

Whiplock nodded as he could see where Harry was going with this, "Might I ask, why the rush? You have plenty of gold in your trust vault and you do turn 17 in a year or so?" asked Whiplock. " The Rush...well how many sixteen year olds do you know who are marked for death by Voldemort personally and live to see seventeen?" Harry answered with a bit of annoyance, before he continued. " All I'm saying is that I know Voldemort is coming after me, you know that he is coming after me, the entire wizarding world knows he is coming after me, and when that time comes, I want to be as ready as I can be. I'm not sure, but something tells me that Voldemort won't wait until I turn seventeen to come after me, would you?"

"You do have a point there Mister Potter, and by me granting you Lord ship and full access to your vaults, you could use the vast amounts of weaponry and protective armor in your vaults to help your mission. Is this what you were hoping for?"

Harry slightly bowed his head with embarrassment as he spoke just above a whispering level, "Well actually Sir, I have never been told the contents of my family's vault, that's actually part of my problem, I am tired of having no control over my own life! As it seems I may not have much of one left after very long, what little time I have left, I plan to make the most of it and answer to no one!"

As Harry finished, the shy and embarrassed look on his face had completely disappeared, replaced with a fierceness that Whiplock had rarely seen in a wizard, especially as young as Mister Potter. "I would do the same as you in your position Mister Potter and I apologize for your lack of information where Gringotts is concerned, but just to clarify Mister Potter Your Family has Vaults, five of them to

be specific, not to mention the three Black Family vaults that were left to you by your Godfather Sirius Black."

At the mention of Sirius' name, Harry felt a stabbing pain in his chest, but he suppressed it. " So, am I to assume that you agree that my case is extraordinary and that you are going to grant me Lordship and access to all, (pausing for he could hardly believe he had so many), nine vaults?"

"Yes Mister....Harry, I am" said Whiplock as he laid out a rather old looking parchment in front of Harry and asked, "Can you please place three drops of blood on this parchment and sign your full name at the bottom of this form please Harry."

As Harry began to do what was asked he had a thought, "I am curious Whiplock, who has had access to my family vaults and has any gold been withdrawn from my accounts other then for my schooling?"

Picking up the parchment Harry just signed with his blood absorbed into it, Whiplock formed a toothy grin. "Congratulations Lord Harry Potter Black, now that you are granted ownership of all nine vaults, I can easily access that information for you."

As Whiplock was rifling through some paperwork on his desk, Borak entered the office with a tray of drinks that he set down on the corner of Whiplocks desk. Turning so he could address Harry, Borak asked: "What would the young Mister like to drink? Pumpkin juice perhaps?" But before Harry could reply, Dobby interrupted. "Lord Potter-Black would like a glass of your best fire whiskey, make that two."

Harry, who was completely shocked by Dobby's assertive behavior, couldn't help but smile, why not, he thought, I am of age now. "Excellent call my good friend" said Harry as he lightly patted Dobby on the back. "As you wish Lord Potter-Black" Borak replied as he quickly vanished from Whiplocks office.

"Ahhh here it is, the only person besides yourself who has had access to your accounts was Albus Dumbledore, and as of today he

has taken one million, six hundred thousand gallons from your accounts." Said Whiplock still looking down reading off the parchment.

At hearing this piece of information, Harry became visibly upset. "Does he still have access to my vaults or can I remove him from gaining access?" Said Harry as he was slowly grinding his teeth to keep his temper from boiling. "The moment you signed those Lordship papers, all keys, access, and knowledge of your vaults contents have been removed from Mister Dumbledore's memory.

This news brought a small smile back to Harry's face, as Borak re-entered the office with Harry's Fire Whisky. Handing Harry and Dobby their drinks, Whiplock picked his drink up and offered a toast. "Let us drink, to Lord Potter-Black and his new found independence," as Harry, Dobby, and Whiplock brought their glasses together before downing the liquid fire. Harry felt a wave of warmth spread through his entire body. "Now that's what I'm talking about!" said Harry as he slammed his glass down on the tray. Dobby mimicking Harry, slammed his glass down on the tray next to Harry's.

Harry, who was laughing quietly at Dobby's strange behavior, addressed Whiplock once again. "I think I have taken enough of your valuable time for tonight Whiplock, but I do have one final request." Whiplock gave a toothy grin and replied, "you want to visit your vaults?"

"No actually, I was wondering if there was some way that I could withdraw gold from one of my vaults without coming to a Gringotts location?" Smiling, Whiplock opened his desk drawer and removed a small black muggle wallet with a gold letter G on the cover. "Use this, just place you thumb over the gold G emblem, and think of how much money you need. It can be in Gold or any kind of muggle currency, it is protected and can only be used by you."

Taking it from Whiplock, Harry was in awe. "This is perfect, how come I have never seen one before?" Laughing at Harry, Whiplock answered, "We only grant this privilege to our most wealthy of clients, and you Lord Potter-Black are our richest client. Do you have any idea how much gold you currently possess in your nine vaults?"

Not having a clue as to how much gold he owned, Harry took a guess, "A couple of million?" A huge Laugh escaped Whiplock's mouth and after several seconds he slowed down enough to get a few words out, "A few million, maybe in your trust vault Lord Potter-Black."

"What happened to calling me just Harry?" "Well just Harry, Here is a list of your holdings in the five Potter vaults and the one Trust vault, as you can see you are a very wealthy young wizard. We will have to meet at another time to discuss the contents of your Black vaults. I assume that Dumbledore did not inform you of the will reading that is to take place in two weeks time?"

"No he didn't, in fact, I haven't heard from anyone from the wizarding world since I left Hogwarts weeks ago." "I see" said Whiplock, "well, I for one will make sure that I inform you directly of any information from here on out."

Taking the parchment from Whiplock, Harry flipped a few pages and glanced down at the bottom line that showed his Potter vaults total holdings. Harry had to blink several times and he feared he was going to pass out. "I.....I.....I mean.... I thought I had....I....?" Completely bewildered, Whiplock just smiled. "Like I said before....you are Gringotts most wealthy customer." Whiplock said with a smirk.

Still a little gob smacked after finding out he was one of the richest people in all of England, Harry finally stood up with Dobby following suit. "Just one final thing, as you are aware, Dobby here speaks on my behalf and he will be handling certain business issues for me. I do expect him to be treated as I would be, I simply state this for the safety of your fellow Goblin warriors, you don't want to see Dobby upset."

At hearing this, Dobby lowered his head with a slight blush flashing across his face. "I was curious, did you by chance perform some sort of wizard oath with Mister Dobby?" Whiplock asked. "I might have, why do you ask? Said Harry. "It is something that Goblins are known for, we can see through polly juice potion and we can see various wizard bonds and oaths. I merely ask because, I can see the bond

between you and Dobby, and it is one of the strongest I have ever seen.”

“Just one more advantage for team Potter against Voldermort isn’t it?” As another huge smile spread across Whiplock’s face he said: “I am definitely pulling for Team Potter as you say, and if there is anything else I could do for you, just stop by. I’m sure Borak will send you right in without provoking another situation.”

Both Harry and Whiplock laughed at that, as Whiplock stood and escorted Dobby and Harry to the lobby. Walking through the hallway and entering the lobby, Harry noticed several Goblins along the way that all bowed their heads to not just Whiplock, but to Harry and Dobby as well. Harry thought he would ask Whiplock about this the next time they met.

As they reached the exit into Diagon Alley, Whiplock stopped and shook hands with Harry and then to Dobby. “I will send notice to you in regards to the Black will reading, until then, take care of yourself Lord Potter-Black.”

“Thank You again Branch Manager Whiplock, I truly appreciate all that you have done for me. If there is anything that Lord Potter-Black can do for Gringotts, you just let me know, until we meet again sir.”

Exiting Gringotts, Harry realized that they were in the bank longer then he expected to be and all the shops in Daigon Alley were all closed. “Well we will have to finish phase two tomorrow Dobby, what do you say we pick up some food and head back to Privet Drive.” “As you wish Master,” and with a almost silent pop, they were gone.

Chapter 3

Waking up, Harry slowly blinked away his sleepiness, pondering all that had happened to him in the last twenty four hours. As he was waking, Harry realized something, he had the best night sleep he had ever had at Privet Drive. No early morning wake up calls by Vernon pounding on his door to begin his slave chores. Still lying in his bed with his eyes closed, Harry breathed in the moment. He tried to describe the feeling that he was experiencing in this moment, what was troubling him was that he couldn't. He had never felt this way before, he thought, could this be what control feels like? Is this what everyone else felt like, all those students at Hogwarts, living normal lives, without a care in the world. Shaking that train of thought, Harry wanted to bask in this moment a little longer. Smiling, Harry thought about how good he actually felt, even his crappy little broken down twin bed, felt like a magnificent triple king size bed made for a King.

Finally opening his eyes and reaching for his glasses on his night stand, Harry took a look around his room. As his jaw dropped, he couldn't believe it, this was not his room. A slight panic filtered through him, instantly he searched for his wand. Feeling much more confident with his wand in hand, he started to calm down as he walked around the room. It was magnificent! In fact, magnificent was an understatement. The bed he was sleeping in was bigger then a triple king, in fact it was bigger then his entire old bedroom used to be.

The floor space in this room was amazing, walking to the front of the bed, Harry took a seat at the foot and just looked around. Suddenly he knew that he was not in danger, he had sense contentment. Glancing to his left he noticed three doors, contemplating choosing one of these and exploring, he looked to his other side and he noticed a large balcony type bay windows with a marvelous gold perch with his best girl Hedwig looking right at him.

"Hedwig," walking over to stroke her feathers he noticed a letter attached to her leg. Untying the letter, he glanced out the window and was jaw dropped again, he was looking out on Privet Drive. As his jaw was slowly closing, Harry had only one thought, Dobby! Smiling, still clutching Hedwig's mystery letter, Harry walked back over to the bed and opened his letter.

Harry,

It has come to my attention that yesterday, sometime around late afternoon, the wards protecting Privet Drive flared for several hours. Which has led me to believe that you left the immediate neighborhood of Privet Drive. Need I remind you what dangerous times we are facing and I implore you to not leave Privet Drive for any reason. Thankfully you did not use any magic, for my detectors showed that you didn't, please only use magic in the most serious of circumstances. I know you are feeling guilty about losing Sirius, but remember that he would not want you to be reckless and put yourself in danger over sulking his passing. Remember Harry, there are people that care a great deal about you, Like your Uncle and Aunt. Confide in them, it is at times like these, when family is most important.

Sometime in the coming weeks, I will be taking care of some things, on your behalf, at Gringotts. Please send Hedwig to me with any letters that Gringotts may send you, and I will take care of everything. Remember Harry, things are not always as they seem, please don't be so quick to react. It is always best to take a step back and analyze every option that is available to you before jumping into a reckless and dangerous situation. Let us remember the what happened the last time you jumped to conclusions instead of listening to the wisdom of young Miss Granger. It is human nature to make mistakes, but it is the truly wise, who learn from them.

Take care of yourself my boy and I will contact you before September first with details about your Order escort to Diagon Alley to purchase your school necessities. Until then try and keep your self busy, I am told that the muggles have an invention called a Puzzle, it is rumored to be relaxing as well as quite difficult to complete. You may want to ask your relatives if they could pick you up one.

Albus Dumbledore

“That crazy old coot!” Harry bellowed out loud while crumpling up the letter as he forcefully made a fist and threw the letter across the room. Thinking about what Albus just said, and still needing to vent, Harry

tried to remember his train of thought before he opened the letter. Where had that sense of contentment gone? Looking around this magnificent room, it started to come back a little. Remembering who was to blame for this room, Harry spoke out loud, "Dobby?"

As a small hand gently pilled at his pajama bottoms, Harry was completely startled, and flinched away from the hand, even though he was expecting to see Dobby, he was completely surprised by his appearance. "I'm sorry Master, I didn't mean to scare you," said Dobby with his head bowed down in shame.

"Don't be silly Dobby, I was just a little startled, why is it that when you appeared, there was no popping noise like there used to be?" Dobby looked confused at this, then he replied, "I was not aware that anything had changed?" said Dobby. "You always made a pop when appearing in the past, try going to Diagon Alley and then back, I want to test this theory I've been pondering." "As you wish Master Harry," before Harry could remind Dobby to just call him Harry, Dobby was gone. No sound at all, he just vanished, determined to not be startled this time, Harry walked back over to the bay windows, so he could have a clear view of the entire room.

Waiting, with his head on a swivel, searching for any movement, several seconds passed until, suddenly Dobby was standing right before him. Again, no noise, completely silent. "Was that what Master wanted or should I go again?" asked Dobby a little confused. "No Dobby, don't leave, you just proved me correct. I don't know how, but something has changed about you."

"I am sorry Master Harry, I would try and change back, but I do not remember changing in the first place, does Master want me to talk to the House Elf Alliance, and ask them for a suitable replacement?" asked Dobby with a slightly rejected look on his face as he slowly bowed his head. "Have you gone bonkers? Dobby, you are my friend, the only thing you could do that would change that would be to sell me to Voldemort." A fiercely protective look flashed across Dobby's face as he hurriedly spoke, " I would never do anything to endanger Master Harry Potter-Black sir, I would gladly give my own life first...!" But Dobby was cut off by Harry who surprised the little elf by kneeling

down in front of him and wrapping his arms around him in a fierce hug.

Dobby just stood there as his eyes began to fill with tears fighting their way to break free and run down his cheeks, as Harry lingered a little longer still hugging the elf. Finally releasing Dobby, Harry took a step back, still kneeling, eye to eye with Dobby, Harry spoke from the heart. “Dobby, I want you to understand,” Harry began as he raised both of his hands to place them on Dobby’s shoulders, he continued. “After losing Sirius, and you’ve seen my Uncle and Auntie, I have no family. Dobby, you are the only one who truly cares for my well being, with no strings attached. You don’t want me to save the world or to use my fame, or borrow my money, you care about me, Harry. For heavens sake just take a look at this room you made for me, who in this entire world cares enough about me to do something so extraordinary? No one, but Dobby.” As the dam broke, Dobby’s tears poured down his cheeks, still staring into Harry’s eyes, too choked up to speak, he just stood there, crying. Harry continued, “Dobby, it is I who should be begging you to hang around me, if you hadn’t come to help me, I would be downstairs cooking dinner and dodging punches from Vernon right now. As messed up as my life is right now, the one thing I thank Merlin for, is that I have you, the most loyal and trustworthy friend a guy could ask for.”

As the boy and elf came together in a hug again, Harry’s eyes began to leak, as he silently cried. So thankful that he had a partner, an ally in this crazy mixed up world. As the two of them were holding each other, both with their eyes shut, just taking in this moment, neither of them realized the slight glow that formed around the two of them. Right before Harry opened his eyes and released Dobby from his grasp, the glow faded, gone unnoticed by the pair. “Now that we have got that straighten out, I never want you to mention me replacing you for any reason ever again, okay?” Dobby still overwhelmed with emotion, simply nodded his head that he understood. Looking for a distraction from this awkward moment, Harry asked, “Now, why don’t you give me a tour of this marvelous room and then we can get some breakfast, how does that sound?” Smiling at those words, Dobby began to calm down as he grabbed Harry’s hand and walked him over to the three doors.

“ I thought about building this room as you were signing your Lordship papers, I think it will come in handy.” Said Dobby with a huge grin as he wiped away some stray tears. As the door slowly opened, Harry turned from looking at Dobby, to looking in the room, what he saw, was his third jaw dropping moment. Harry was looking at a beautiful dueling room. The room was about a third of the size of Harry’s Hogwarts Defense room. Walking into the room, Dobby closed the door behind them, and the room made a suction sucking noise and then sealed. The second the suction noise ceased, an animated voice was heard, “Please state configuration” Harry looked up and around the room trying to figure where the voice was coming from, he then looked to Dobby and shrugged his shoulders. Dobby smiled then said, “four attack dummies, mild stunners, forward progress, at multiple levels.” At the other end of the room, appeared four attack dummies, standing roughly between five foot eight to six foot four, wearing long black robes. Their faces were featureless like mannequin dolls, spaced about two feet apart, they each had a stick like wand in their hand.

Staring at the four black attack dummies, Harry smirked as the animated voice spoke again, “ simulation will begin when prompted, to stop practice session, clearly state End Training.” Harry looked over to Dobby still glancing around the room, a few thoughts went through his head, but before he could state a few, Dobby interrupted him. “Don’t worry Master, this room is sealed, no matter how much noise you make, no one will hear, I do mean no one. As for you using magic, there are no restrictions, and as no one besides Whiplock knows of your Lordship, outside of this room, your magical signature is unknown.

Nodding Harry said, “well that answers two of my questions, what about me? I mean how badly can they hurt me? “that depends on what setting you program them, right now they are programmed for light stunners, they will hurt and get hit with enough of them and you will be fully stunned.”

Harry thought, “fully stunned? For how long?” “The room will revive you and heal you to some degree, but as the setting level raises, so will the pain level, residual pain, and soreness that follows.” Said Dobby a little scared that he might have overdone it a little. There

was a few seconds of silence as what Dobby just said, sank into Harry's consciousness.

"I can live with that, I mean no pain no gain, right? After all, Death Eaters wont be shooting stunners, so I will have to practice dodging and shielding stronger spells eventually. This room is amazing Dobby you did wonderfully." Looking from Dobby back to the practice dummies, Harry smiled, "Dobby, stand back, I want to break this room in. Dobby stood over at the observation area, as Harry walked over to the starting platform. Taking one last big breath, Harry pulled out his wand and got in proper dueling stance, "Begin," said Harry. The four dummies sprang to life and the dummy on the far left shot first, Harry, rolling to the right, evaded it just barely, standing up to release a stunner, he got hit by the fourth dummy and fell back on his but.

For a brief second, Harry paused before realizing that the dummies were still advancing. Instead of standing up, Harry rolled to the side while he fired two stunners at the closest dummy, watching as his spells hit the dummy dead on in the chest. Springing to his feet, Harry shouted "Protego" as his shield formed in front of him, he crouched down as more stunners bounced off his shield then sprang just to the side of his shield as he aimed at the two tallest dummies approaching, "confundo." The spell hit right between the two dummies, blasting them to shreds. The last dummy got slashed on his non-wand side from the residual damage from Harry's blasting curse. With just one dummy left, Harry could concentrate on the task at hand, waiting for the dummy to fire first, he was ready, as the spell was leaving the Dummy's wand, Harry dodged to the side, crouching down he shot back, "Deprimo" Harry watched the dummy's spell shoot past him just to his left then a half second latter, Harry's spell hit the dummy just above the waist as it flew backwards with a crash.

The second the last dummy hit the floor, the lights turned on and the animated voice spoke, "session ended, results calculating, target examination will begin now." The four dummies were raised off the floor and shot over against the wall and just floated there. Harry walked over and got a closer look at the damage he inflicted. Looking at the last dummy at close range, Harry was impressed at the damage the Deprimo spell caused, there was a hole, the size of a

basketball just above the waist line. Harry smirked as Dobby walked over and joined him. "Just think Dobby, if I shot that spell at an unaware Death Eater but just a little bit lower." It took a few seconds for Dobby to follow Harry's train of thought and then he grinned evilly, "No more then the filth deserve!" said Dobby.

Harry laughed as he nodded his head that he completely agreed, his chuckles slowed, Harry was pacing in front of the damaged dummies examining his handiwork, as Dobby handed him a slip of paper. Reading the paper, Harry was astonished, what he was reading were all the particulars of all the spells he casted. Spell strength, damage levels, and the best part was there were variations listed. "Wow Dobby, this is amazing, not only will these practice sessions help with my accuracy and spell strength, but also give me new spells to practice to cause the same type of damage. Some of these variations are really old witch will be harder for my enemies to deflect and shield. I think I will be spending lost of time in this room this summer."

Harry walking over to the door, stated "End Training," and the dummies vanished as all the lights turned on. Opening the door, waiting several seconds as the room unsealed itself, they left the room and re-entered the main bedroom. Instantly Harry smelled something delicious, looking over to the corner was a small table with four chairs and a vast arrangement of breakfast foods. Walking over and sitting down, Harry looked back as Dobby sat at the foot of the bed. "What, not hungry Dobby? Why don't you join me, you've got plenty of food here." Dobby just smiled and went to sit down on Harry's right, as he sat down, another set of dinnerware appeared. "Dobby, how did you do all of this while we were in the dueling room?" Dobby just smiled until Harry finally figured it out. "You didn't make any of this did you? I know how you did it, Winky!"

With a loud pop, Winky appeared. "Yes Lord Potter-Black, it was I who made breakfast, I hope you approve, Dobby is a horrible cook, but he is an excellent food getter." Harry just smiled as he noticed Dobby blush and bowed his head with embarrassment. "Of course I don't mind Winky, in fact I am honored that you would spend your time making Dobby and I, food. Would you care to join us?" Winky squealed excitedly then hopped over to sit next to Dobby and another spread of dinnerware appeared.

After eating breakfast and saying goodbye, for now to Winky, Dobby showed Harry what was behind the other two doors in his bedroom. As Dobby was opening the door, Harry said, "after what was behind door number one, how could this get any better?" Harry walked in to one of the finest bathrooms he had ever seen. Whistling, Harry stated, "this is better than the prefects bathroom at Hogwarts." Walking around the room, he continued, "I am going to spend hours in this room tonight to really break this room in." As visions of chilling in the huge Jacuzzi, completely relaxed, messaging his sore muscles, danced in his mind.

Leaving the bathroom, the third door was not as cool, it was just a huge walk in closet, complete with lounging couches and huge wall length mirrors. Of course, it was completely empty of clothes, for everything Harry owned fit nicely in his school trunk.

But Harry could see the potential of this room, and he looked forward to filling those empty shelves for he badly needed a new wardrobe.

Sitting down on his bed, Harry smirked, "well Dobby, what do you say, I think its time for our little trip to Diagon Alley." "Can I make one suggestion Mast...Harry?" "Dobby, you don't have to ask, what's on your mind?" "I think you should change your appearance so we can stay under the radar, so to speak, Diagon Alley will be very bust at this time of day." "Your right Dobby, no sense pushing my luck, would you do the honors?"

Dobby just smiled as Harry's hair changed to shoulder length brown hair and his skin tanned, then his eye color changed to brown. Lastly his trademark glasses got an updated look. "All done?" said Harry as Dobby nodded, Harry walked in his closet to take a look in his full length mirror. "Wow, great work Dobby, you even tanned out my scar, I should just stay like this all the time." Raising his hand to feel his scar, he realized he could still feel it, of course he could, like it would be that easy to get rid of.

As they were getting ready to leave, Dobby made one more statement, " What about what Mister Dumbledore said about never

leaving Privet Drive?" "I was thinking about that, because he is going to find out eventually. I will send him a letter when we get back, just before the Wizard and Elf vanished silently to Diagon Alley, Harry smiled for he knew just what to write. Sorry to Disappoint, No One's boy, Harry.

Chapter 4

Harry and Dobby arrived just outside the Leaky Caldron, on the muggle side, a few stores over. Harry, looking around to gather his bearings, turned to Dobby for a little pre game planning. “ The first thing you need to know, is that you can’t call me Harry here, my name will be James Harrington. When we are under cover like this, it’s the only time I won’t complain about you calling me Master.” Kneeling down to look at Dobby, eye to eye, Harry spoke in a serious tone. “ There may be times where I will be acting rude, or speaking crudely to you or to store workers, I have to act completely different or people might recognize me, even through your great disguise. Do you understand?”

“ I do Master, don’t worry, I understand what you have to do. I also will be acting differently, and I will be invisible for most of our time here, so don’t worry about people recognizing me too. After each of your purchases, I will be taking your goods back to your room, unless you want to shrink them and take them with you.”

“That’s perfect Dobby, I didn’t even think about people recognizing you, but I think we should give you a nickname as well, just to safe, what would you like to called?” Dobby thought about it for a second, and then he smiled and said; “ Prongs, I would like to be called Prongs.”

Harry just smiled back at Dobby, “ Okay, are you ready to shop till you drop Prongs?”

“I think I am Master Harrington, lead the way.” Harry walked down the sidewalk and entered the Leaky Caldron. He walked briskly to the back entrance, not stopping to say hi to Tom the Barman or anyone else, he tapped on those certain bricks and waited for the secret passage way to open up before entering Diagon Alley.

As the sounds and smells of the busy wizarding alley assaulted his senses, Harry felt somewhat overwhelmed by it all. Still walking, he slowed his pace as he began to look around. The people walking by and shopping never once looked at him or paid him any attention. This was such a different experience then what he was used to, this

feeling was so liberating. His normal Diagon Alley visit would include tons of stares and pointing fingers, not to mention all the hushed whispers being spoke as he walked by, flanked with what could only be described as a military detail. Looking over his shoulder to check behind him to see if he was being followed, but the result was the same, no one cared.

Harry knew that by taking control over his own life, he would have opportunities to have a little freedom, but this was too much. He smirked to himself as he continued down the busy alley, this feeling of being able to do anything, go anywhere, was a little addicting.

Shaking his head to clear these stray thoughts, he had to get back on task if he was going to get everything he wanted completed today. Slipping back in character, he strutted more purposefully down the Alley until he noticed a small little shop with about five to ten school trunks outside the window in various colors. Making up his mind quickly, he changed direction and entered the shop. As he entered, a little chime went off and soon an elderly old man with a long white beard that reminded Harry of Dumbledore, addressed him.

“Can I help with anything in particular young man? My name’s Horace Whitehead, but you can call me Horace. Trunks are my specialty but I also sell all types of furniture.” Shaking the thoughts of Dumbledore out of his head, Harry replied. “I’m not looking for anything in particular, but I am curious, I have had the same school trunk for the past five years and walking past your shop got me thinking of maybe buying a new one. Can you show me a few and possibly help me make up my mind?”

“Of course I can my boy, right this way” Harry followed Horace towards the back of the shop, along the way, they passed armoires and desks, as well as some beautifully crafted wardrobe cabinets and bookshelves. Making their way to the back, there was about a hundred trunks in various sizes and colors stacked along the walls all the way to the roof.

Horace pulled out his wand and gave it a little flick, three trunks swooped down from various places in the large stack along the wall, and flew down and landed right in front of Harry.

“These are my three most popular models and should be completely suitable for any students needs, Hogwarts I presume?” Asked Horace, Harry simply nodded as he walked over to the first trunk and lifted the lid to look inside. It was much larger on the inside then his school trunk, although from the outside it looked smaller, and had different sections inside to help keep things organized. As Harry walked over and lifted the lid to the second trunk, he looked inside and noticed it was very similar to the first one and he quickly closed it and moved on the last one. Peeking inside the third and finding it to be much of the same, Horace spoke before he even closed the lid.

“Of course these are my most popular student trunks, but are not my finest trunks, is there something in particular you were hoping to find in a trunk? Depending on how much you’re willing to spend, I can make you a custom trunk with just about anything you can think of installed, even a full on four bedroom house.” At hearing this news Harry looked up from where he was holding the third trunk’s lid open, with a slight smile on his face, he quickly closed the lid and said, “really, now you have peaked my interest, lets talk about these more costly trunks that you have created and see if I can find something I can’t live without.”

Horace smiled and turned towards the wall of trunks as he waved his wand, a section of the trunks moved aside to reveal a small door covered with a red curtain. Motioning for Harry towards the curtain, Horace spoke again more eagerly. “ My cheapest trunk in this room runs close to three thousand galleons, are you sure you are willing to spend this much on a trunk, Mister... ?”

“ Harrington, James Harrington, and I assure you Mister Whitehead, money is no concern of mine.” Said Harry as he walked passed the red curtain and into the small room. The first thing he noticed was there were not as many trunks in here as there was outside. As Horace walked in, he waved his wand, and two trunks flew from various spots and landed right in front of Harry. “ well Mister Harrington, these are what I call starter trunks, the one on the left is a three compartment trunk and the other one is a six compartment trunk. Both trunks come with living quarters, the three compartment

comes with a two bedroom, one washroom, and the six compartment comes with a four bedroom and two washrooms.”

“ Harry nodded his head that he understood, as Horace continued to explain. “As for the compartments, I have a wide variety of options you can choose from. Anything from a Potions Lab, to a Library,” handing Harry a roll of parchment, he continued, “here is a list of all my available options and their prices for each.” Unrolling the parchment, Harry began to read through the options, what he read made him smile.

“ All my custom trunks come with my personal security system which is something I am most proud of. The wards I created with the help of my lovely wife, are very unique. Once I tie them to your blood, you become the official owner and no one other then yourself, can enter, and I do mean no one.”

“But what if I want to grant someone access for an hour or two, or for that matter, on a more permanent basis?” Asked Harry who was still reading through the compartment options. “Once I key you into the wards, the trunk will grant you permission to do the same to anyone you want to, be it temporary or permanently. But the one invention that my wife created that is most impressive, She created a spell, more of an enchantment really, that will create a link from one trunk to another. So if you bought two trunks, you can travel between them, completely untraceable, anywhere in the world.”

“ That does sound pretty amazing, or a clever way for you to get me to buy two of these costly trunks.” Said Harry with a smirk, still looking at the trunk options parchment. He was already thinking of things he could do with one trunk, now he knew he was going to buy two. “No trickery here Mister Harrington, I am just explaining all the options that are available to you for these fine hand crafted trunks,” Replied Horace smiling.

Harry handed the parchment back to Horace with a smile as he had finally made up his mind. “ I will take two trunks, a three compartment trunk, and a six compartment one. The options I want in the smaller one are, an Infirmary, Library, and leave the third compartment empty, but I would like it to be as big as the dueling room.” Horace waved his

wand at a piece of parchment that was sitting on a nearby counter as Harry continued. "In the larger trunk, I want a dueling room, an office, a potions lab, Herbology room, an Armory, and your largest Elf quarters. I want both trunks in your black and gold colors with the one touch shrinking ability, your strongest security features, and your wife's lovely linking enchantment to link the two trunks together."

Horace's eyes grew rather large as did his smile at the thought of how much money he was going to make selling those two trunks, and it was only going to grow larger as Harry began to speak again. "Also, as for the Office, I would like to purchase two of those fine desks and complete office furniture we passed on the way in here as well as those presidential chairs. In the Library, I want the largest one you can do with several of those special bookshelves you sell and a large conference table with those plush leather chairs for relaxing."

The quill was scratching away over at the counter as Harry continued. "As for the potions lab, I want your best stabilizing spells placed on the entire room, with marble counter tops and enough space to simultaneously brew up to eight cauldrons. For the Armory, I want six armoires', with your best locking and security options installed. The herbology, dueling, infirmary, and Elf compartments to be standard, with no furniture placed in the Elf quarters, I will take care of that personally. When will those be ready for pick up?"

Horace walked over to the parchment just as the quill quit scratching and picked it up off the counter. Looking it over his eyes reached the bottom of the parchment before he addressed Harry. "The total cost of everything needed to build, enchant, and secure both trunks is going to cost you close to seventy thousand galleons, and will take me three weeks to finish."

Harry thought it over and then made Horace an enticing offer, "I will pay you one hundred thousand galleons to have them finished in a week and for your discretion. I am a private man and would not like anyone to know I have such amazing trunks and what is stored within them."

Horace thought it over to make sure he could get them done in time before he answered.

“I will have to work on them personally for the entire week, which would take my time away from my other customers, but my wife can take over the shop for that week, so you have a deal Mister Harrington.” Harry shook the shop owners hand and spoke again, “my House Elf will come by in a week to pick them up for me.“ Horace waved his wand as two trunks flew over in front of the counter top and landed gently on the ground before him. “If you could place a hand on each trunk so I can key you into the wards so you wont need to be present at the time of pick up.”

Harry placed a hand on each trunk as Horace waved his wand in a circular motion as he spoke a rather long and complicated enchantment. After several minutes, Horace finally finished and told Harry he could release his hands, then Horace levitated both trunks to his work area before turning towards Harry again. Harry pulled out his special Gringotts wallet, placed his thumb on the gold G as he thought one hundred thousand galleons. Harry was a little worried at how he was going to pull out one hundred thousand galleons out of this little wallet. When he opened it, he was a little confused because there was only one galleon in it, so Harry pulled it out and set it on the counter. As he closed his wallet, he prepared to do it again thinking he did something wrong the first time, when all of a sudden, something gold glittered out the corner of his eye. Looking up to the counter, Harry was shocked to see one hundred thousand galleons stacked neatly sitting on the counter. Still a little shocked but trying to disguise it as to appear he knew what he was doing, Harry stowed his wallet away.

“I will say Mister Harrington, you are the first person to ever purchase those options all in one trunk in quite some time,” said Horace as he was stowing away the stacks of gold on his counter top. “ I usually cater to the average Hogwarts student, but something tells me that you are no average student.”

Harry smiled as he answered, “ I haven’t been average in a long time, it used to be all I wanted, but recently I’ve learned that there are some things you just can’t change. You can either fight it, and change nothing, or embrace it and be prepared, I choose the latter.”

“Prongs” Harry called out loud, Dobby appeared in front of Harry, startling Horace.

“Mister Whitehead, this is one of my House Elves, Prongs.” Turning to address Dobby in front of Horace, Harry Commanded. “Prongs, your to return to this shop in seven days, five minutes before closing time to pick up two trunks I purchased here today, do you understand?”

“Yes Master Harrington” replied Dobby before turning to face Horace. “ I will return in seven days to pick up master’s belongings.” Before Dobby vanished, Horace spoke up, “Wait, before you go, with your permission Mister Harrington, I will need to key this House Elf into the wards on the trunks if he is to pick them up for you. No one who is not keyed into the wards can pick up or enter the trunks, and no one includes House Elves.”

“Of course Mister Whitehead,” Said Harry as Horace levitated the trunks back over in front of Harry and Dobby. “Prongs, place a hand on each trunk until I tell you to let go”

Commanded Harry and Dobby obeyed. Horace got to work, keying in Dobby to the wards, when he finished, Dobby vanished. “It was a pleasure doing business with you mister Harrington, but if you would excuse me, I have a lot of work to do.”

“That you do Mister Whitehead, that you do, I look forward to enjoying your craftsmanship,” And with that, Harry turned and walked out of the store and back into Diagon Alley. Feeling like he was starting to get somewhere, Harry thought about where he needed to go next. Looking around the busy alley, Harry spotted Flourish & Blotts and figured that was as good a place as any to start. Walking into the book store, Harry bumped into someone, knocking them down to the ground.

“I’m sorry Miss, I wasn’t paying attention” Said Harry as he reached down to help her up. His heart rate jumped because he was standing face to face with none other than Ginny Weasley. “It’s okay, I wasn’t really paying attention either, name’s Ginny, who are you? Do you go to Hogwarts?”

Regaining his composure and thinking quickly Harry began, "No, I don't go to Hogwarts and my name is James. Are you here buying your school supplies?" Oh no, my whole family does our school shopping together, besides, we haven't got our school lists yet. I'm here with my brother and his friend, there meeting here soon, my brother just had to get another ice cream, I think it was his fourth."

" I see, well if you'll excuse me, I do have some shopping to get too, you take care of yourself, and try not to run into any more people." As Harry turned to walk away, Ginny called out, "Do you want some company?" Harry thought about how he should proceed, having Ron, Ginny, and Hermione around would only complicate things, and he had a lot of things on his to do list to take care of. "I'm sorry, but I hardly know you, and I do have places to go and things to buy and such, but it was nice to meet you." Ginny looked disappointed but she said her farewells as Harry walked towards the back of the store.

Walking into the defense section, Harry tried to shake it off, this was no time for distractions. Thinking about his soon to be Library compartment, Harry realized he was going to be buying a lot of books, more then he can hold. Harry re-routed and walked over to one of the help desks to speak to the associate, "excuse me sir, but I was wondering if you could help me, I am going to be purchasing several books today, several hundreds to be precise and was wondering if you have a cart or something I can use?"

At hearing several hundreds, the associate looked up with an eager smile on his face. "Oh yes, I can help you with that, just fill out this special members form and we will create an account for you." As Harry started to fill out the form the associate handed Harry what looked like a miniature wand. "Now Mister Harrington, this elite membership does have its privileges, not only will it help your in store shopping experience, but you will get to order books through our mail service and receive them weeks before the general public. Now as for that wand there, just tap it to any book in the store and it will be transported to your personal shopping cart located on the fourth floor which is for members only, that is where you will need to pick them up and pay to keep your account current. You may also want to relax in one of our V.I.P. members lounges, mingle with the social elite

such as yourself Mister Harrington. The access door to the 4th floor is located just to right here, just wave your book wand and the door will open for you and any of your guests.”

“I was never aware this store had a fourth floor” Smirked Harry. “Members only huh, let me ask you sir, how exclusive is this members only fourth floor?” “Very Mister Harrington, you won’t be bothered up there, that is unless you want to be.” replied the associate, “by the way, my name is Justin Avery and I’m the Assistant Store Manager, if there is anything else I could do for you, just let me know. Happy Shopping!” Thank you Mister Avery, I look forward to checking out this 4th floor, but not after I purchase at least four hundred to six hundred books.” Said Harry as he walked off laughing at the reaction of Justin at hearing that shopping cart size. He slipped his members only book wand in his inside robe pocket and started walking back to the defense section. Finally arriving to his destination, Harry took a breath. This store was deceiving, it looked small but it was rather large. Pulling out his book wand, Harry got to work, tapping book after book, walking down the aisle, browsing, Harry paused when he heard whispered voices of some familiar people. “Oh great,” thought Harry, “I think I’ll hit up the potions section,” turning to leave, he froze at the mention of his name. He knew it was wrong to eavesdrop but they were talking about him, “I’ll leave as soon as they stop talking about me.”

“Excuse me for worrying about Harry, I just hope he is taking care of himself and not sitting around and sulking like Dumbledore says he is.” Said Hermione with a concerned tone of voice. “I’m sure he’s fine, Harry will get through it, he always does. Remember how he was after Cedric, you thought he wasn’t going to come out of that, but he did.” Ron said assuredly. “This is different Ronald, this is Sirius were talking about, and this time it wasn’t some random accident, If Harry would have listened to me instead of racing off to be the hero, Sirius would have never left the house.”

“Come on Hermione, it’s not our job to take care of Harry, okay so maybe it is, but it’s summer, and until Dumbledore picks up Harry, I would really like to not talk about him.” Turning to look behind Hermione, to see what Ginny was doing. “Ginny, will you stop bobbing up and down, what are you looking for anyways?” asked Ron.

"I ran into this guy earlier, and he was really cute, he's got to be around here somewhere?" said Ginny as she was still trying to spot James. "I finally found it" declared Hermione, picking up the book of the shelf. "Now we can get out of here and I can finally finish all of my homework."

"Were not leaving the Alley though are we? Because I wanted to stop by the Twins shop and see some of their new inventions," whined Ron. "Ronald, you know we don't have time for that, maybe we can come back tomorrow and have lunch with the pranksters, we can take the floo from headquarters, straight to their shop." Hermione compromised as Ginny was still bobbing up and down trying to find the mystery boy. "Fine, go and pay for that and we will wait for you outside," Ron said sulkily as he grabbed Ginny by the arm and dragged her towards the exit.

Harry just stood there frozen, he didn't know what to think. Is this the way they always talked about him when he wasn't around? Did they say anything that wasn't true? Harry knew what Hermione said was harsh, and Harry felt totally to blame for getting Sirius into that situation that ultimately caused his death. But he had no idea Hermione felt that way, I mean, she was the one who always told him it wasn't his fault. Shaking his head to clear away those thoughts, Harry thought, that was the old Harry, the new Harry was going to shock quite a few people. As his frown slowly turned into a smirk, Harry continued his book shopping spree.

Several hours later, Harry had just finished tapping several books on Herbology that he found very interesting. Walking down the aisle, Harry was pondering this new hidden value he saw in enhanced hybrid plants, walking to the first floor members only door that would take him to the private exclusive members only fourth floor, thinking how this could be cool Harry got a little excited. Nearing the Customer service desk, Harry spotted the black door just to the right, and headed straight for it. As he walked up to the door, Harry spotted several people just off to the other side of the help desk looking in his direction as he pulled out his book wand and waved it over the Black sign that read "Members" The door opened with a low voice that spoke, "welcome Mister Harrington" Harry walked in and the door

closed instantly behind him. Suddenly he was moving and Harry realized this rather large room was and elevator.

When the door opened again, Harry walked out, not knowing what to expect, right out into what looked like a night club without the loud music. Looking around as he walked, he noticed several beautiful girls lounging in the corner in some leather chairs. Harry continued walking down this large hallway, as he neared the end, the hallway split. Hanging above were two signs, to the left, Flourish, and to the right, Blotts. Standing at the entry way to both hallways were huge body guards. Wondering which way he should go, a few people walked up and went towards the Flourish side. Two girls broke off from the group and approached Harry standing undecidedly in the middle. "Hi, my name's Krista and this Jennifer, are you going to Flourishes?"

"I'm sorry, what is Flourishes? This is my first visit and the assistant manager didn't really explain it very well. My names James." "Oh" replied Jennifer, "well then let us be your tour guides," as she grabbed Harry by the elbow and Krista walked over and took the other. "Let me see your wand?" said Krista and a small silence followed before Krista and Jennifer started cracking up laughing as Harry's smile slowly grew larger until he too was laughing. "Your Book wand," corrected Krista still chuckling. Harry handed over to her and she turned a knob at the end that Harry never noticed before. The entire wand turned into what looked like a TV screen, on it showed two maps.

"Wow," said Harry looking it over, "pretty cool huh, Flourish and Blotts were brothers, one loved to expand his knowledge by reading books, the other, a socialite, with a flare for the exclusive party scene, a strange partnership to say the least, but it works." said Jennifer. Krista began to point out things and explain how it worked to Harry. "The left side here shows Flourishes, which of course is the coolest night club in wizarding England. These red dots flashing here show available tables In the exclusive V.I.P. area, I've heard reserving one of those tables runs one thousand Galleons. In the terrace area here, there are more as well as Balcony rooms that have an amazing view of the whole club, those rooms I heard run around five thousand."

“Of course, we’ve only heard about it because we have never actually been up there, we spend most of our time in these sections, the dance floor and bar area,” said Jennifer smiling. Krista continued, “the other side is Blotts, these red dots back here show the amazing reading rooms available, the blue dots show open lounges, and the gold dots show reading rooms, where Authors some times come to read their works. We mostly hand out in the lounges, some are pretty cool. This silver area here is the check out room where your shopping cart is stored and you pay.”

“I’m so surprised by this, I had no idea any of this ever existed before today, but I have to say you girls are right, this is way cool.” Harry said as he smiled. Both girls chuckled. “You girls were way helpful for explaining this to me, I’m goona chew out that assistant for leaving me in the dark on this one.” Krista laughed at that but Jennifer had a confused look on her face. “That is odd, usually, you can only become a member through family or some high power people connection, I’ve never heard of Managers handing out membership before, you must have really impressed him or something.” said Jennifer rather proud of her assumption.

Harry laughed as she was correct, dropping that much coin and buying that many books, especially all at once, he doubted that the store had many customers that did that to hand out membership too. “Well I’m going to the check out room and pick up my purchases, and then I have to run, I have a lot of shopping to do today.”

Krista’s smile grew large, “did you say shopping?” Jennifer just started to shake her head as she warned Harry, “now you’ve done it, you said her favorite word, shopping.” “If you don’t mind me asking, do you girls go to Hogwarts?” Harry asked.

“No, Jennifer and I attend a private Wizarding School called Biggsby. Were both sixth years, do you go to Hogwarts?” asked Krista. “Yeah, it’s okay, actually, it’s all I know, I’m not very familiar with all the wizarding school besides the big three, I never thought about Private schools.”

“It’s all right, I like it cuz it’s much smaller and everyone isn’t so stuck up and concerned with blood status,” Said Krista worriedly as

she looked towards Harry to judge his reaction when she said, "Jennifer and I are muggle born." Harry just smiled larger as he squashed Krista's fears by answering, "one of my best friends is muggle born, I'm a half blood myself."

Krista became visibly happier as she bounced on her heals as she grabbed Harry's elbow, and started leading him towards the Check Out room in Blotts as she said, "let's go clear your account so we can get on with that shopping you mentioned earlier." Watching them walk in Blotts as Harry waved his wand with Krista talking lightly in his ear, Jennifer just shook her head at her crazy best friend, then quickly followed them in.

Krista led Harry in to the Check Out room and Harry walked up to the counter. The young woman working at the counter asked Harry for his Book Wand, she then placed it into the slot on the counter casually before her eyes bulged. "It will take just one second Mister Harrington to shrink and package your purchases," the counter top slid open and a small screen displaying how much Harry owed on his account appeared. "Please place your payment in the drawer and your packages will be down shortly, feel free to roam around one of our lounges while we get you order ready." She handed Harry back his book wand as Harry pulled out his Gringotts wallet, thought about the amount, then opened it and placed the single galleon in the drawer and closed it before it turned into a mound of gold in front of the girls. "Your Book wand will vibrate when you books are ready for pick up, Thank you Mister Harrington for your business and I hope to see you again."

Harry walked over to the side of the Check Out room with Krista towards two double doors that lead to the lounges, as Jennifer hung back to have a word with the girl working behind the Check Out Counter. "I noticed your reaction when processing James' order, I'm just curious, how many books did James purchase today?" The Check Out girl looked from side to side before leaning forward and whispering, "five hundred and sixty four." Now it was Jennifer's turn to have her eyes bulge out, before checking herself, then turning towards the lounges to catch up to James and Krista.

Harry hung out in one of the lounge's for a little bit, talking to the girls, getting to know them a little better. He felt bad about lying to them about his true identity, but it was safer for them in the long run. Harry really enjoyed their company, especially Krista's, and wondered if one day he would tell her who he really was. It wasn't long before his book wand vibrated, and Harry returned to the check out room to pick up his package. As he picked up the tiny little box, Harry smirked to himself, over five hundred books were in this little box, Oh how he loved magic.

"I'm not sure but I think it might be time for some shopping?" said Krista slight eagerly. Harry started to laugh at her eagerness, "What are we shopping for exactly?" asked Jennifer. "Well I need to purchase a lot of potions materials and supplies and some furniture, but I think I will take care of that later on my own. I also need to purchase a whole new wardrobe and could use some fashion expert advice, do you know where I might find someone to help me? They would be rewarded with some new clothes as well." Said Harry with a smirk.

Now it was Jennifer's turn to become very eager at hearing this, grabbing Harry by the elbow just before Krista grabbed Harry's other arm as they said in unison, "we know just the two experts for the task." walking out, back into the large hallway and back to the elevator. "We know the perfect place to start." Harry smiled for he knew he was in good hands. Walking out into Diagon Alley, they made their way to the Leaky Caldron, towards Muggle London. Harry glanced back to the book shop as they left, smirking to himself, Flourish & Blotts took on a whole knew meaning.

Chapter 5 New Beginnings

After hours and hours of browsing the stores in the mega mall, Harry had never had so much fun shopping before. Harry knew that this was mostly because he had never been shopping with Krista and Jennifer. They were so much fun, laughing and joking around, not to mention watching them model skimpy outfits that they looked absolutely gorgeous in. Harry bought enough clothes to fill his new closet, designer jeans, dress shirts, slacks, sweaters, vests, jackets, under garments, T-shirts, shorts, swim wear, and shoes, tons of shoes.

Harry especially enjoyed the swim suit browsing, especially when Krista walked out of her dressing room wearing a skimpy two piece bikini just as Harry walked out wearing the swim trunks that Krista picked out for him. Harry was still getting used to being this new confidant person, fighting back the blush that he felt rising up just under the surface.

Even though the girls tried on several outfits, enjoying themselves immensely, once at the cash register, they wouldn't allow Harry to buy them anything. Harry wanted to purchase two more things, he wanted some very nice suits, and stop at a jewelry store and get some watches and maybe a necklace or something.

Krista was "super thirsty" to use her words, so that's where we find Harry sitting with Krista and Jennifer at a small circle table in the mall food court. Harry wanted to learn a little more about both girls, he started to probe their abilities in magic and what they thought about Voldemort and the future war that was about to break out. Although Harry was having a blast, the most fun he had in a long, long time, he couldn't help to think that it was all going to change and soon. Harry was starting to care about these two girls he barely just met, and if war was coming, Harry wanted them prepared, or at least aware so they could protect themselves.

Not sure how to approach the subject, Harry figured a direct approach was best, so he started with a simple question, "What do you guys think about this Lord Voldemort guy?"

The joyous atmosphere around the little table quivered. After a moments pause, the silence was broken, "Well, I'm muggle born, and you know what, I'm proud of it! So if Volder Weenie wants to start killing random people just for being muggle born, he better hope he doesn't cross me on the way," said Krista stubbornly. Harry grinned at Krista's toughness as Jennifer spoke. "Oh yeah, like you could stop him, the darkest most crazy snake face man of all time against Krista, the most butt kicking, rockin chick looking ohh so fab in that Gucci skirt.

Harry, who was taking a drink of his soda, turned just in time to not spray Krista with his soda. Krista, sitting with her arms crossed tried not to laugh as Harry and Jennifer started busting up, soon Krista followed.

Jennifer added, "I'm a little more curious about why you asked about him, I know you said that you were a half blood, so you wouldn't be one of his followers, would you?" Harry was a little shocked by the accusation but he understood, he did bring it up out of nowhere and that was a little odd, but he had to know where they stood. "I don't think James is a death eater, otherwise he would have stopped talking to us when we told him we were muggle born, and I'm not worried about that egotistical murderer anyway, because Harry Potter will take care of him like he did when he was a baby."

Harry was a startled at hearing his name but felt a little proud at hearing Krista talk so assuredly about Harry Potter's abilities as Jennifer chimed in. "I heard that he started a Defense Club last year at Hogwarts where he taught people how to protect themselves against an attack. How awesome is that! Do you know Harry, James?"

Harry paused for he felt this was the perfect opening to tell them who he really was, after hearing them talk so vigorously about opposing Voldermort, he hoped they would understand his reasonings for hiding his true identity. Both girls were looking at Harry waiting for him to say something. Harry decided to divert their attention towards this topic by standing up from the table and declaring it was time to finish their shopping spree.

"You do know him don't you?" asked Krista as she was gathering up her trash and followed Jennifer to the trash can. "I'll tell you what, after we finish shopping, I will take you girls out for a nice dinner and we will talk about this Harry Potter, but the stores are going to close soon and I havn't even baught you girls anything yet." "He does have a point there," said Jennifer as Krista just laughed then looked to Harry. "Okay, well then where too?"

I need some business suits, so where should we go?" asked Harry as Krista and Jennifer just looked at each other with a slight smile and before Krista answered Harry. "With your frame, you would look good in Armani, come on, I know just the place." Krista grabbed Harry by the elbow as Jennifer came to his other side, walking beside them.

"lets go outside where we can take a taxi to the fashion department, we should be there in a half hour."

"A Taxi?" Said Harry looking down at his watch, "If you girls don't mind, I have a magical alternlitive that can get us there like now?"

"We can't apperate, even though Jennifer and I are both excellent at it, we are both on our Headmasters Watch List, it's just safer if we take a taxi, don't worry I'll pay for it." said Krista with a smile.

"I wasn't talking about apperating," said Harry, stepping out of the mall, he dragged both girls over to the side, near a large dumpster and the handicapped parking spots before calling out, "Prongs!" Dobby appeared silently right before the three of them. Jennifer quietly shrieked as she muffled it by putting her hand over her mouth.

"Yes Master, what can Prongs do for your Lordship?" Said Dobby as he bowed down so low, his nose was practically touching the ground. Harry smirked at Dobby's theatrics. "Prongs, this is Krista & Jennifer, can you take the three of us to a secluded spot near the Fashion District in London?" Prongs standing up from his bow had a huge smile, looking from Harry to the girls, he answered, "As you wish My Lord," and with a snap of his fingers, all four of them were standing just off an alley, right behind the exclusive Chanel store in the District.

“Wow, that was awesome Prongs, I have traveled by house elf power before, but that was flawless, and practically instantaneous.” Said Krista as Jennifer was just staring at Dobby with wide eyes and mouth slightly hanging open.

“Thank You Prongs, that will be all for now, I will call you when we are ready to leave here, I do have a task for you while we are shopping here.” Said Harry handing Dobby a roll of parchment before continuing, “Visit the Apathecary, Caldron, & Slug and Jiggers shops in Diagon Alley and buy everything on that list, have everything shrunk, and store it in my closet.”

“As you wish Master,” said Dobby as he bowed low, then vanished silently, as Harry turned to look at the girls that were both smiling back at him. “So girls, where can I find an Armani suit?” asked Harry as he walked out into the District as Krista and Jennifer flanked him. “Right this way My Lord,” said Krista as she swept her arm forward, as Jennifer laughed. “What is the deal with that, are you really a Lord? I knew it! You are Lord Voldermort!!”

Silence passed for a few seconds before Harry started to bust up laughing as both girls followed suit. Walking down the District Alley, the girls spotted the store they were looking for, and dragged Harry in, an hour and a half later, Harry walked out with no less then seven, tailored Armani suits. Walking by the Chanel store where they arrived, Harry noticed Krista staring past him into the display window with a look of admiration on her face. Now it was Harry’s turn for a little surprise, grabbing both girls, each by the elbow, Harry dragged them both into the Chanel store and right away they were greeted by an associate.

“Can I help you with something, or are we just checking the latest styles of the season?”

“Oh no, we are doing no browsing here tonight, I would like you to pamper these two girls and fufill there every last wish, money is no issue. I want them leaving here with huge smiles and no less then ten dresses apiece, can you do that for me?” said Harry with a smirk.

“ Of course we can, Mister...?” asked the associate as she ringed a little bell and ten employees came busting out and whisked the girls away. “ It’s Lord, Actually, Lord Harrington.” Replied Harry as he pulled out his Gringotts wallet and handed the associate one hundred thousand pounds before speaking again. “This should get them started, I have a few last minute errands to take care of, please keep my friends occupied until I return.”

“As you wish Lord Harrington, please don’t fret, your friends will be well taken care of in your absense. How long do you wish me to keep them occupied so to speak?” asked the associate with a sly smile. Harry smirked back for she caught on faster then he would have guessed, replying, “Lets say an hour and a half, two hours tops, and have them looking beautiful and ready for dinner upon my return.” And with that, Harry turned and swooped out of the store, vanishing quickly before the girls saw him slip out.

Looking around, Harry spotted a secluded side street that was scarily lit and headed right for it. Reaching the shadows, Harry called out, “Winky?” a slightly loud pop was heard and Winky appeared. “What can Winky do for Lord Potter-Black?” as she bowed low and held it until Harry spoke. “Winky, please stop bowing, I really am sorry to bug you, but I was kind of in a bind and Dobby is busy.”

Winky just stood there, staring at Harry, not really sure what she was supposed to say or do. House Elves are rarely asked for their opinion or how they feel about something, and this Wizard before her was constantly crossing those lines. Wizards are supposed to make commands and House Elves are supposed to follow them. Hoping to receive a command from him, Winky urged again, “What is it that Winky can do for you?”

“I was hoping you could escort me to Gringotts, in Diagon Alley, but if you are busy or have some other plans, I completely understand,” said Harry with a hopeful smile. Shaking her head, Winky started to tear while trying to keep a smile on her face. “Oh Winky is rarely busy anymore, Hogwarts has many House Elves, and they don’t like Winky very much so I work alone or with Dobby.”

“I’m sorry Winky, I feel slightly to blame for your situation, with the Crouch Family I mean, Is there something I could do to help you, make things better for you?”

Winky started to shake and fidget before speaking so softly, Harry could barely hear her.

“I refuse to be any bother to Mister Lord Potter Black, Winky does not need for things to be better. Are you ready to go to Gringotts sir?”

As Winky walked closer to grab Harry’s hand, Harry pulled back and changed his plans. “Wait, can you take me to my room at Privet Drive, I need to pick something up before we go to Gringotts, is that okay?”

“Of Course Lord Potter-Black” Winky grabbed Harry’s hand and with another loud pop, they were gone. Reappearing in Harry’s Privet Drive bedroom, Harry smirked for no one that knew of this room before, would ever be even close to recognizing it looking like a palace. Making up his mind Harry got down to business.

“From now on this room will be officially known as Harrington’s Palace,” nodding his head as if to say, now that’s out of the way, Harry continued.” Now Winky, one more thing I wanted to do before we leave was to ask you a question. Winky, I would like to extend an innvitation to you, on behalf of the Poter-Black family clan, would you please become a Potter-Black Family House Elf?”

Winky just stood there, completely shocked, eyes bulging out as they were leaking tears. Harry was not sure if he was doing the right thing? What if Winky didn’t want this and he forced her to do something just because she was trying to please him?.As Harry was about to clarify, Winky interrupted, “That is the one thing Winky has always wanted but was never courageous enough to ask for.” More tears began to flow from Winky as she cried, harder and harder.

“Winky, I only want you to be happy, you are a very courages Elf and you have been through a lot and that has made you stronger. Besides, I need someone to help me keep Dobby in line.” said Harry with a smirk. Getting the response he was hoping for, Winky’s tears slowed down as her smile grew larger and larger. “That is true Master,

and Winky is very good at keeping Dobby from causing trouble," said Winky confidently.

Laughing at the quick change in the House Elf standing before him, Harry walked closer, kneeled and placed his hand on Winky's head. "I Lord Harry James Potter-Black, pledge my magical core to bind itself to the most honorable House Elf Winky, and promise to always treat her with respect and honor, and always look out for her best interests Winky, welcome to the House of Potter-Black!

A Familiar glow started to grow stemming from Harry's hand. The one big difference Harry noticed, was that the glow was slightly silver in color compared to Dobby's gold one. As the glow grew in intensity, Harry shut his eyes again, and then, with a flash, it was gone. Blinking fast, and wiping away some stray tears, Winky spoke confidently.

"I, Winky, acknowledge the wizard oath given by Lord Harry James Potter-Black, and I pledge to always serve and protect the House of Potter Black, and to always protect his secretesuntil death!" At Winky's closing words, a bright green glow filled the room quickly, closing his eyes, Harry waited for it to pass, which it eventually did.

A small silence filled the room as Harry looked at Winky, Harry couldn't ever remember seeing Winky look so happy. Harry broke the tension, "Well Winky, the last time I bonded to someone, they became slightly stronger and more powerful. So it is safe to say, that you will become very powerful too, I hope Dobby can forgive me?" Harry said while smiling at Winky. "I am ready for our Gringotts trip now, what do you say?"

Winky, who was staring at her hands while flexing them, said with a smirk, "Something has changed Master, I feel much stronger all of a sudden, and you are correct, Dobby might not forgive you." Harry laughed, this was a new Winky, much more confidant. Wondering how far he could push it, Harry spoke, "As if Dobby wouldn't forgive the great Harry Potter, anyways, I could always just blame it on you, who would he believe, Winky or Harry Potter?"

Winky's smirk fell and was replaced with a shocked nervousness, clasping her hands together, she spoke. "I was only playing Master, please don't make Dobby choose between you and me, because I would lose."

Harry couldn't hold it in any longer and started to laugh really hard. After calming down, he looked over at Winky who didn't look scared as much as she looked confused. "Don't worry Winky, I was only playing as well, and as for who Dobby would choose between us, I really do think he would pick you, he'd be a fool not to."

Winky smiled then walked over to Harry and grabbed his hand but before they disappeared, Harry mumbled, just loud enough for Winky to hear, "I have to be the luckiest wizard alive, for now I have TWO amazing House Elf Family members." Winky's smile grew so large, Harry thought her face was going to split in half. A milasecond later, Harry and Winky silently arrived in the Gringotts Lobby.

Harry walked over to the nearest bank teller and waited to get their attention. The Goblin, finaly looked down and asked, "what is that you need?" Harry replied, "I need to visit several of my vaults and gather a few things, I would also like to grant access to all of my accounts, to this Elf here."

The Goblin had a stubborn look on his face until Borak, the Assistant Bank Manager came strutting along, and interrupted the teller. "Lord Potter-Black, what a pleasure it is to see you again, how can Gringotts serve you today?"

"Thank you Borak, as I was explaining to your rude teller here, I need to visit my vaults and add Winky here to full access of all my family affairs. Said Harry as Borak snapped his fingers and three Goblins rushed forward, two taking Harry to his vaults and the other took Winky to Borak's office area.

Harry met up with Winky in the Gringotts lobby about an hour later. Harry found some very interesting things in those Potter vaults, he hardly had the time to scratch the surface, but he got what he was hoping for, patting his pockets with a smile, Harry looked around the

lobby cautiously. "Winky, I feel like I'm being watched, can you spot anything out of the ordinary?"

Winky bowed her head and grew very silent, after about ten seconds she spoke. "I sense no danger or threat to you here my Lord." Still looking around, Harry trusted Winky but thought he would have to run some tests with her to analize her power, leaning down to whisper in Winky's ear, making sure he wasn't overheard. Harry said "Winky, we need to make one more stop before we return to the Fashion District." After Harry finished, Winky took Harry by the hand and vanished silently.

Harry Suddenly appeared right where he was thinking, alone. Looking around for Winky, Harry was interrupted by an associate. "I'm sorry, I didn't see you enter, can I help you with something?" Harry realized this was why Winky was not visable, then he turned and walked up to the counter where the associate was standing.

"Yes you can help me, My name is Lord Harrington, and I would like to purchese two very stunning necklaces for two equally stunning beautiful girls," Harry finshed with a wink. The associate smiled at Harry, then led him to a secluded section of the jewelry store. Harry glanced in the locked window section and spotted several shinny, sparkling, and glittering necklaces with rings and ear rings.

"They all look so beautiful, I'm not sure which is best?" The associate spoke up, " Well sir, that depends on what type of ladies they are, can you tell me a little about them?"

Harry thought on that, then answered, "Well one of them is very outspoken and opinionated while the other is kind of the opposite, that is unless someone or something makes her mad." Looking at the associate's confused face, Harry said, "Sorry not much help huh?" as Harry walked along the locked up window.

"That's alright, well then, I would just take a few minutes and walk around the store, if the right items for your girls are in here, they will grab your attention, this I am sure of." finshed the associate, smiling before walking away giving Harry the time to look around.

Harry took several walks around the store before finally spotting what he was looking for. He looked back towards the associate and she walked over to him. "You see, jewelry is weird like that, it just calls to us sometimes, the hard part is when something calls out for you, then you look at the price, needless to say, sometimes I hate the jewelry."

Harry laughed at that, he understood, of course now that he was probably the richest person in England, he no longer had those types of concerns. Wishing he could trade all of his money to get back what he lost, his life back, his family...., Shaking away those thoughts Harry asked, " Speaking of cost, how much are those two going to set me back?"

The associate who was sliding open the locked window, didn't even look at the price before she answered. " Well Lord Harrington, you do have great taste, those two pieces will make your bank account much smaller, I assure you, although this one is cheaper, but the other one is one of our finest pieces. In fact, the famous actress , Keira Knightley, borrowed this very piece to wear to the Academy Awards Ceremony."

Harry smiled for that was perfect, that was the piece he was going to give to Krista. The other piece was also very nice, but Krista's piece was remarkable, Harry got a little excited at the prospect of seeing her face when he gave it to her. "It is a remarkable piece, I can already picture it wrapped around her neck, I'll take them both." Harry said with a smile, The associate also smiled as this was going to be one hell of a sales bonus this week. After paying for the necklaces, Harry walked out of the store and walked around the corner. Just before he was going to call out for Winky, she appeared. "Are you ready to return to your friends in the Fashion District?"

"I am, but first I was hoping you could help me change." Harry asked as he was emptying all of his pockets and placing them on the floor in the little alley. Spotting the bags from the Armani store, Harry resized them and found the suit he wanted to wear for tonight. "This is the suit I was hoping to wear tonight, if you could take the rest of my belongings back....," Harry paused as a quick breeze flashed through the alley, he looked around as to the cause of the disturbance until he realized it came from Winky. Looking down, he received another

surprise, he was now wearing the suit he wanted, right down to the shoes and tie. "Absolutly amazing Winky, I didn't even feel it, Thank You. Like I was saying before, could you store all of these belongings back at Harrington Palace for me." Harry asked as he was placing the two Jewlery boxes in his inside jacket pocket, he spotted the Magic Book Wand on the ground, scooping it up, he placed it in the other inside jacket pocket as he had a thought.

"Yes Master Harrington" said Winky and with a snap of her fingers, everything on the ground had vanished.

"Winky, do you know of the night club Flourishes? It's located in Diagon Alley."

"Yes Master, I know of it, they have several House elves I know, working there."

"Excellent, I would like you to book their finest private lounge over looking the club, Tell them it is for Lord Harrington and I will be having two guests for dinner. We will arrive with Dobby in about thirty minutes." Finished Harry.

"Yes Master, are you ready to return?" asked Winky. Harry took one final look at himself and nodded yes. The suit he was wearing cost quite a bit of money, but he had to admit, he looked almost as good as he felt wearing it, and that was saying something. Harry always wanted to have a nice suit, ever since he was a little boy. No more Dudley hand me downs, Harry thought. Winky, reached out her hand for Harry to grab, as he did, they disappeared.

Harry reappeared in the same back alley where he first called out for Winky. Looking around the corner, Harry spotted the Chanel store where he left the girls, glancing down at his watch, it had been just past two hours ago. Stepping back into the shadows, Harry thanked Winky and asked if she could take those things back to Harrington Palace and secure them in his closet for he needed them tomorrow. Winky agreed and then she was gone again.

Harry walked into the Chanel Store and quietly walked over to the lounge area and took a seat. He wasn't there very long before the

associate spotted him and came running over. "Lord Harrington, I didn't see you return, did you take care of all of your errands?"

Harry answered, "I did, Thank you, how are my girls doing, are they happy? Better that, are they ready to leave yet?" as he looked down at his watch. "They will be ready in about five minutes, they kind of got lost in the moment so to speak, can I say that you look absolutely fabulous!"

"Thank You" said Harry standing and smoothing out his jacket. " As for the girls getting carried away, I'm glad to hear it." Said a smiling Harry. A few minutes later, Harry heard two very excited girl voices speaking very fast, he turned around and what he saw, almost made for another jaw dropping moment.

Krista and Jennifer were leaning in close, talking to each other as they were walking towards the lounge area. Harry noticed right away how amazing both girls looked. Jennifer looked like a completely different person and Krista looked even more beautiful, something Harry thought was impossible. Krista was wearing a long silver type dress, that had an open back and a v-like cut in the front, showing her long lovely neck area and so much skin in the back, Harry was finding it hard to pay attention. Her hair was down and it flowed around her beautiful face. Jennifer had a tight knee length black dress that fit her perfectly with her hair in an up-do and looking very stunning.

Both girls spotted Harry standing off to one corner and Krista immediately ran to him and flung herself at him as Jennifer walked briskly towards them. " Oh James this was the best shopping experience I have ever had in my whole life, this must have cost you a fortune?" said Krista.

Jennifer added, " Really James, I've been giving you a hard time tonight, but this was absolutely amazing, almost as amazing as you look." Harry slightly blushed as he realized he was still holding Krista in his arms, after releasing her, he found his voice. "Me? Look at you two gorgous vixens," said Harry with a smirk as both girls spun in quick circles showing off their dresses. " You never told me that you two were part time models?"

"Part time?...umm no...we are Full Time models.....well I am anyhow, I cant speak for Krista." said Jennifer as Harry and Krista started laughing. "As beautiful as you two look tonight, I think I can make you look even better." said Harry after he regained his composure after laughing at Jennifer.

"Really, and just how can you add to this perfection, I mean really, I look amazing, there is nothing you could do to make me look better." Jennifer said confidently as Krista suggested a paper bag over her head was a good start. Harry was the only one who heard that as he chuckled at Krista he pulled out two black velvet boxes. Jennifer froze at what was in Harry's hands.

Opening the box, Harry pulled out a sparkling diamond necklace that was very stunning. Jennifer's mouth dropped open as did the associates and Kristas. Placing her hand over her gaping mouth, Jennifer was speechless. "What no witty remark? Cat got your tongue?" Harry teased as he walked closer to her and held out the necklace. Still stunned, with her hand over her mouth, Jennifer turned slowly as Harry placed the necklace on her, he noticed several goose bumps spread throughout her neck.

Turning around so everyone can see, the Associate said, " wow, that looks absolutely stunning on you!" Jennifer walked over to the full length mirror and was just staring at herself as she fingered the necklace with her right hand. While she was busy looking in the mirror, Harry approached Krista, "You didn't think I forgot about that beautiful neck did you?" Krista slightly blushed as her left hand reached to her neck area slowly scratching at the empty space.

Harry pulled out the other necklace and Krista let out a loud shriek. This got the attention of Jennifer and the Associate who was over by Jennifer, admiring her new necklace. As the two girls walked over to where Harry and Krista were, they noticed Krista had turned around, and was holding her hair slightly off to the side. When she turned around, it was the associate that shrieked this time as Jennifer walked closer to take a better look. Jennifer, dragged Krista to the mirror and both girls were just staring at themselves, smiling. Perfect, Harry thought, as he walked off with the associate to pay for their purchases.

After paying for everything, Harry grabbed all their bags, and told the associate he was taking them out to the car and he would be right back. Once he shrank all of their bags, he re-entered the store, Harry spotted both Krista and Jennifer still looking into the mirror. Chuckling to himself, Harry spoke out, "Well if you two want to stay here and stare into that mirror all night, that's fine with me, I guess I will just go to diner by meslf then." As he turned to walk out of the store with a smile on his face, he waited for what he knew was to come.

"OH NOO ...Wait...JAMES!!" the girls screamed in unison and practically ran out of the store. Catching up with Harry quickly, they each grabbed an elbow as Harry lead them to that secluded alley way. "You Prat, you weren't really going to leave us tonight, were you? Asked Krista.

"Are you kidding, if I did, some modeling agency would have swooped you two away, and I would have never seen you again." Right before reaching their secluded alley way, Krista spotted a little booth on the opposite side selling cell phones. She dragged Harry and Jennifer over to the booth as she whispered into Harry's ears.

When they reached the booth, Harry Spoke, "I would like to buy twenty pre-paid cell phones with five thousand minutes each." Looking to Krista to see if he said it correctly, she nodded her head that he did. After paying for them, Harry grabbed the bag as the trio headed to the other side of the alley. Reaching the dark alley, Harry called out for Dobby, "Prongs!"

Dobby appeared before them, but this time, the girls were expecting him. "Hello Prongs, did you get your shopping tasks completed?" asked Krista. Harry just smirked at how polite Krista was to Dobby. "Oh yes miss, I did, and I see you enjoyed your shopping trip, for all of you look extremely beautiful, especially you miss Krista." Dobby finished with a bow.

"Awe...I look Beautiful huh Prongs?" said Harry just short of cracking up. "Well, at first I would have to say you do sir, but standing next to those two beauties, you look like a second hand thrift shop." Dobby said with a smirk

“Ouch!” Harry said jokingly as the girls ooed and awed at Dobby’s burn before busting up. “Okay, get it out of your system now before I decide to actually leave you two here.”

Said Harry as both girls clutched hands over their mouths to stifle the giggles. “Dobby, please take us to our dinner location, I assume you’ve spoken to Winky?”

“ I have Master, and I can’t thank you enough,” said Dobby as he started to tear. “ Prongs, I did it for me as well, she is amazing.” Krista looked a little jealous at hearing Harry talk about another girl who he thought was amazing. “Are we ready?” said Harry as both girls nodded, they linked arms, as Dobby snapped his fingers, they vanished.

Re-appearing in a private lounge area inside Flourishes, Dobby disappeared again. Jennifer walked over to the balcony and opened the sliding glass door and stepped out. Coming back inside, she announced, “we’re in one of the luxury suites at Flourishes!!” as Harry was making his way to the plush dinner table that was served up already for them and taking a seat. Not far behind him was Krista and then, finally Jennifer.

After they finished dinner and couldn’t possibly eat anymore, Harry stood up and walked over to the small lounge area in the corner of the suite. Soon the girls followed him over there and the tone changed from joyous to serious. “Is this the time where you tell us what’s really going on and end this most perfect day of my life with sadness?” said Krista

“ Yes and No,” said Harry cryptically. “ I need to make a confession, I am not who you think I am.”

“You mean, your not Lord Harrington?” asked Jennifer

“Well I am a Lord, but my name is not Harrington.” As both girls looked slightly confussed, Harry continued. “ You know how I mentioned Voldermort earlier, and you guys got really defensive, well I was really happy to hear that because I am sort of starting a war

against him." Harry looked on nervously, hoping they wouldn't call him crazy and run out.

"Let me get this straight, you are planning a war, against Lord Voldermort, The most darkest and dangerous wizard of our lifetime, and you are what, buying supplies and gathering recruits, is that what you want from us? You want us to join your war?"

Looking to Jennifer, Harry shook his head, "No, that's the last thing I want, I could never forgive myself if you two somehow got hurt because of me. I would like you to be prepared to defend yourself in case the war comes after you though." Harry finshed as the silence settled as both girls sat, lost in their thoughts.

"Why?" Krista said softly, breaking the silence. "Why start a war against him? Why does it have to be you?"

"That is sort of a complicated story, but why not me? You said it yourself Krista, this war is going to happen wether we fight in it or not, and I refuse to just stand on the sidelines, when I know that I can make a difference, and I WILL!" Harry finshed strongly.

The silence grew in the room again, until this time, it was Jennifer who broke it, "I don't know about Krista, but you can count me in," As she bowed her head down slightly, a few tears leaked out of her eyes before she continued. "Lord Voldermort killed my parents, when I was just a baby, before Harry Potter vanquished him, I owe it to them to try my hardest to oppose him."

Krista, got up and sat next to Jennifer, rubbing small circles on her back to comfort her. Then she looked to Harry and spoke, "You can count me in as well, Voldermort has ruined so many lives, I will not stand on the sidelines as well, just one question, what makes you think you can stop him? Do you know Harry Potter?"

A small smile flickered across his face before he spoke, "What I am about to show you can not be shared with anyone, it is an aweful burden to have to bear, are you sure you girls are willing to get involved in this?" As both girls nodded their head immediately, that they were, Harry got up and walked around the room, closing the

balcony door, closing the curtains, and placing silencing charms around the room before walking back in front of the couch the girls were sitting on.

“Prongs!” Harry called out, as Dobby appeared. “ Girls, I want to introduce you properly to one of my House Elfs.” The girls just looked at him as if he was crazy, “uhh Yes James, we know, that’s Prongs, we’ve already met...remember??”

“No, This is Dobby....Dobby, meet Jennifer and Krista.” at hearing his real name, Dobby began to slightly panic, “Oh... my Master must be getting sick...he doesn’t know what he’s talking about.....my name is Prongs and I....” But Dobby was interrupted.

“No Dobby, I am telling them the truth, the whole truth, no more lies.” Dobby just stared at Harry before shaking his head that he understood. “Yes Master is being correct, I am Dobby.”

“What does this have to do with you thinking you can even put a dent into Lord Voldermorts plans? Unless you do know Harry Potter?” said Jennifer in a gentle tone.

At hearing this, Dobby let out a little chuckle. “Change my appearance back Dobby” Harry comanded. Dobby raised both his hands as they started to glow.

Harry’s appearance was shaping and changing as he addressed the girls. “I can make a difference in this war, it is my destiny, and as for knowing Harry Potter...,” as his shape changing came to a finish, Harry added, “I AM Harry Potter!”

Chapter 6 New Aliases

Both girls had their first really good jaw dropping moment, and it sure wont be their last. Harry wasn't sure what to think, standing there with a defiant look on his face that showed just how determined he was in this upcoming war. Krista was shell shocked, thinking back to their interactions since she met him, she started to realize, no other wizard alive, muggle born, half blood, or pure blood, were ever as noble and generous as Lord Harrington. Lord Harrington for Pete sakes, Harrington....Harry!

It finally sunk in, this wizard standing in front of her was THE Harry Potter, she had so many questions, she couldn't believe this was happening to her. Standing up quick, Krista startled Harry, who was still standing there, lost in his thoughts about Voldemort and this war. Not really knowing what to think, or what to say, Krista started to feel dizzy, sea sick almost, she broke for the balcony, pulling open the curtains, she reached for the door to slide it open, but it wouldn't budge. Needing fresh air, change of scenery, or something, she reached for the door again, wanting nothing more then for it to open, she wished it didn't even exist.

Watching Krista practically run away from him, Harry's hopes were smashed. He knew this was going to happen, he should have just stayed as Lord Harrington and kept their relationship strictly friendly, and just hung out with them on occasion, cruise the mall on the weekends or something. Shaking his head at what he just thought, who was he kidding, he didn't have time for hanging with friends, to have a NORMAL life. No, his life was stolen from him many years ago by a suicidal murderer, and he was ready to start turning the tables.

As Harry was starting to get angry, he looked up and noticed Krista struggling with the sliding glass door and Jennifer just sitting on the couch still, shocked with dried tear stains running down her cheeks. Harry was about to release the privacy spell that he put on the door, preventing it from opening, but he was a second to late. As Krista was reaching for the handle with desperation, a blue glow shot from her hand, hitting the door and practically blinding everyone in the room.

Suddenly there was a massive roar of noise and a strong breeze shot through the private suite, pushing Krista backwards. Harry dove forward and rolled once before landing in a kneeling position where he caught Krista before she hit the floor. Their eyes locked on to each other as the breeze started to wind down but the noise was still very loud. Not breaking the eye contact, Harry just started into her eyes, a mere second ago, he was ready to tell this girl he's holding, to grab her friend and take off. He didn't need any more drama in his life, he knew what he had to do, he was in. They could either join him, or leave, and pray for someone else to step up. But now, looking into her eyes, Harry could practically read her mind, the inner conflict that was battling inside her brain, the fight to do what she felt was right, or do what was easy and pray that she lived to see her thirties.

Krista, staring into Harry's eyes, saw nothing but pure determination. Blazing through those green globes was nothing short of a miracle for Krista. It was as if her emotions were being controlled by them, she began to visibly relax in Harry's arms and felt a sort of peacefulness and security that she hadn't felt in a long time. She had no idea what was happening or how long she was lying there, in the arms of Harry Potter, staring at him, until she was interrupted by Dobby.

"Master, are you okay? What happened?" Dobby asked as he was shielding his ears from the loud noise. Harry finally broke eye contact with Krista and looked up. He quickly assessed the situation, then he lifted Krista up as he stood himself, then made his way over to Jennifer who was snapped out of her shock by the loud noise. Harry sat down on the couch next to Jennifer and Krista sat next to Harry, but she put her back against the arm rest, holding her knees to her chest as her feet were barely touching Harry's thigh. Dobby came over and sat in the small chair directly across from the couch. Harry raised his wand and the noise instantly shut off and all the four could hear was a slight ring in their ears.

"Well that was interesting, I'm not sure why or how for that matter, but somehow you let out some very powerful magic, have you done something like that before?" asked Harry, who had his head turned, looking directly at Krista.

“I....I did that?....what happened?....I was trying to open the door....and then...?”

“I saw that blue light shoot from your hand...where did you learn that spell, and wandless to boot?” said Jennifer as she whistled. Harry smirked at Jennifer, happy that it seemed she was back to reality.

“Did you say anything, anything at all?” Harry asked as Krista just shook her head no. Harry continued, “what were you thinking as you were reaching for the door, what were you feeling?”

“ I was thinking that I needed some air, I was thinking that this is insane, I was thinking about how I spent practically the whole day with THE Harry Potter, I was thinking why that damn door wouldn’t open and how I wished it didn’t even exist.” said Krista with a frustrated look on her face.

Harry’s smile began to grow until he was cracking up laughing. Both girls and Dobby were looking at him as if he had gone crazy. Krista couldn’t wait any longer and demanded to know what he thought was so funny about all of this.

“ Don’ t you see, the one thing you wanted at that precise moment, more then anything, was for that door to open. You wanted it so badly that you actually wished it didn’t exist, well take a look, that whole glass wall, including the door, has vanished. That’s where all the noise and wind came from, that sudden change of pressure inside this suite, caused that vortex that almost knocked you on you head, and the noise is from the speakers that are practically hanging near that side there, where there used to be a really thick glass wall.” said Harry still slightly chuckling.

Finally Jennifer started to laugh and then slowly, Krista followed suit. “Remind me not to piss you off to badly in the near future,” said Harry before Jennifer asked; “I still don’t understand, how did she do that though?” while pointing at the windy curtains that were blowing from the wind.

Harry turned to Dobby; “Can you fix this for us Dobby, then place some strong privacy spells on this entire room, something tells me that someone noticed that magical output.”

Harry finished cryptically. Dobby looked directly at Harry, then nodded that he understood and vanished.

Harry looked to both girls and said; “Come on, lets give Dobby a couple of minutes to fix this, lets not talk about anything important until this room is sealed,” standing up, Harry walked over to the diner table and grabbed three glasses and a very expensive bottle of champagne, and went back to the couch. Popping the bottle and handing each girl a glass, Harry said; “A Toast, too new beginnings, and new friendships,” Jennifer added, “To new Powers,” Krista smiled then looked to Harry before she added, “To quick reflexes and courage.” The three brought their glasses together, then drank. Harry, who downed his quickly, was setting his glass down when he heard a slight suction noise get louder, like a plunger, until there was a loud pop then silence.

Looking over towards the door, Harry spotted Dobby standing there with both hands outstretched, a slight greenish glow was emanating from both his hands for several seconds then it faded. Dobby declared, “The room is repaired and sealed Master, will there be anything else, I don’t know, maybe you would like to make the floor disappear?”

There was a small silence before Harry busted up laughing, the look on Dobby’s face was classic, Harry was really proud of him. Dobby had officially pulled off his first good joke, and what impeccable timing, thus earning him bonus points. Jennifer had her hand over her mouth to stifle the giggles, as Krista was looking down with a slight red blush of embarrassment.

Dobby, who still had a little smirk on his face, addressed Harry again, “You were correct in your earlier suggestions, shall I explain in further detail or would you prefer to handle this upon you return to the Palace?”

"The Palace? Where do you live? Don't tell me....Buckingham Palace?" Jennifer asked with a straight face. This got Krista to laugh and to forget about that embarrassing incident. "Don't be silly, of course he doesn't live there, my guess is some elaborate mansion like palace somewhere hidden in Paris. I can already see the gold lining marble tile with solid gold pillars." Glancing off into dream land, Harry interrupted her fantasy with his harsh laughter.

This was too much, first that hilarious vanishing glass thing, followed by the best joke ever so far by Dobby, then Krista and her make believe fantasy of where the great Harry Potter lives. These jokes were killing him which was why he was worried about what information Dobby was to give. Harry learned long ago, with this much laughter, only sadness was to come, because in the Life of Harry Potter, too much laughter and joy could never be allowed.

Knowing what has to be done, Harry decided it was right time to settle this issue and set things straight with the girls. Harry said, " why don't you girls sit down over in that lounge area over there while I cast some privacy spells." Harry walked to the new balcony door as he pulled out his wand, closing his eyes for concentration, Harry casted something both girls have never seen. A bright gold light shot from Harry's wand and raced around the room, lighting up the entire suite with a blinding gold light, before rushing back towards Harry and shooting back into his wand as Harry opened his eyes.

Walking over to the lounge, Harry noticed the shocked expressions of both girls and even a little bit from Dobby. "What...why are you three looking at me like that?" Asked Harry.

"What was that spell? I felt the magic within it as it twirled around the room. I have never seen any privacy charm or spell like that before?" asked Jennifer.

"Look, a lot has happened in the past few days, but as you could see, my life is super complicated. Have you've heard of soap operas on television?" as both girls nodded their heads yes, Harry continued, "Well my life is like that, only times a hundred. But I will give you the short explanation before you will have to make a choice. The conspiracies and strategies involved at this level will give you

headaches for days and nightmares for nights, and I won't let you two walk into this situation blindly."

Krista nodded her head that she understood somewhat, I mean look at what he had to do to just go shopping, I mean a disguise is one thing, but a complete alias, with money and social standing within the wizarding community. She knew this was only the tip of the iceberg where one Harry Potter is concerned. All the stories she had read, the interview in the Quibbler, and all those Daily Prophet stories before HIS return was witnessed. Who really knew Harry Potter?

"Look, first thing you need to know is that I am not all powerful grand wizard or anything. I survived the killing curse from Voldermort when I was a baby because of the spell my Mother casted, sacrificing her own life for mine. From what the experts gathered, the backlash that followed gave me powers that Voldermort was not only expecting, but powers he has not."

Both girls were sitting there with slight awed expressions while Dobby was looking determine and very interested in what Harry was saying. Dobby had never learned the particulars of Harry Potter's early life and just how he received his famous lightning bolt scar. If Dobby learned one thing from his former employers, it was that information is power, and the kind of information Harry was sharing, was priceless.

" It took the loss of someone very important to me to realize that I Had to start taking matters into my own hands. My Headmaster, has for the most part, plotted and schemed while in the name of protecting me, kept me clear in the dark. This was not the right angle to play here. Just recently, I have become emancipated, and as the last remaining Potter, I have become, Head Of the House of Potter and as such, I am governed by very old school, pure blood bylaws. No one is aware that I have done any of this."

"You mean that we are the first people you have told?" asked Krista. "Well...people...yes....A few trusted Goblins and House Elfs before you. The fact of the matter is, I am supposed to be hiding away, safe in a boarded up, hate factory, muggle home in downtown London

Suburb. When my Headmaster learns of my stubbornness, and from what I am expecting in Dobby's info, he already has." Dobby nodded his head to signify that Harry was correct in his assumption.

"Look, now that I am Lord Potter, I can cast magic whenever I please now, and with the money at my disposal and connections that I can pull using my fame, something I hate doing by the way, the possibilities are endless. There are almost two months before my school starts again, and to be honest with you, I can't think that far ahead right now. I might not even return to school. I have resources available to me that will expand my spell and magical knowledge, as well as dueling and true fighting skills. I have dueled Death Eaters on several occasions, I know how the mind of a Death Eater works. But you know what? They have no clue how the mind of Harry Potter works, for Harry Potter has never been free to have an input, it has always been Albus Dumbledore's schemes and strategies they have faced."

"This war is unavoidable, at least for me. Voldemort will recruit as many followers as he can and then he will come after me while attacking all of Wizarding England. It is true that he will punish the people I know and love the most in order to weaken me, this is his basic game plan, his failsafe. When in doubt as to what to do, he always falls back to hurt Harry Potter, some way, any way he can. If you two sign up for this, it has to be completely under the radar. That means complete aliases with disguises for both of you, don't worry, if you agree, everything will be taken care of by me, so don't worry about the cost."

Jennifer was nodding her head with every statement Harry made, her resolve was getting stronger and stronger by the second and Harry could see that, plain as day. Krista on the other hand was a deep thinker, she took everything in, and it took her brain a little while to digest everything then form a solid conclusion as to what she should do, Harry was beginning to figure these two out, He continued.

" I know you mentioned that little secret club I started last year, truth be told, it was my friend Hermione Granger that started that club, true they made me their leader and teacher, but there were over thirty students that stood up, together, to fight for what they believed in. If

your school is anything like mine, I'm sure you might have a few friends or students that would do the same. What we need to do is organize, train hard everyday, plan and strategize, train hard again, learn as much as we can, plan some more, then if there's time left over, maybe eat and sleep a little."

Dobby chuckled at that schedule which made Krista and Jennifer smile, but Harry had a look of such determination, it rivaled the death glare that Dobby displayed inside the wizarding bank. Dobby knew little about telling jokes, but he knew enough to realize that this was not time for one of them by the look on Harry's face. "I'm sorry Master Harry, I didn't mean to interrupt, but if you think that Winky will allow you to work that hard and not be fed properly, you are very mistaken, although if it is your wish, I will stand beside you against her, but I fear the odds are heavily stacked against us, she will wipe the floor clean with us." Dobby finished with a genuine scared look on his face.

Harry smirked for Dobby was absolutely correct, Winky would never allow that, he was only trying to make a point, there really is not enough time in the day to get everything he wanted to get done, done. To go sandwich's will have to do, getting back to the mater, Harry, still pacing back and fourth in front of the girls, took a seat in the lounge chair, directly across the couch. Sitting up, he put his elbows on his knees and scooted closer before he spoke.

"After all of this, putting in twenty three hours a day from now till I'm twenty years old, and after all of that it might still not be enough, but all I can give is my all, and that's what I am going to do, I don't normally do something like this, and I don't know why I am so compelled to do this now, but my gut feeling is telling me that you two could be very powerful and also important to the cause. Jennifer, you have a small inkling as to what I am feeling and talking about, we have had similar starts in our lives, both ruined by a proclaimed mad man, fixated on purifying the wizarding world's blood of half bloods and muggle borns when he is a bloody half blood himself!"

"Are you serious, Lord Volder...Voldermort is a half blood?" asked Krista standing up looking completely shocked. Jennifer just looked at Harry and back to Krista as Harry's words were sinking in to her brain.

“Yes, I am serious.” Harry stated before adding, “His real name is Tom Marvolo Riddle, and his father was a muggle and his mother was a powerful witch named Merope Gaunt, who was descended from Slytherin herself, which makes Lord Voldemort, the last remaining heir of Salazar Slytherin. Riddle refuses to acknowledge his fathers roots because of his being a muggle and thus he despises anything muggle, hence the psycho theory of blood purification.”

Jennifer stood up at hearing this and declared, “I’m in Harry, all the way! I have always said if I only had a chance to fight back, to make a difference, and here it is, slapping me across the face! Harry Bloody Potter himself, is asking me to join him. Even if this path leads to my death, I welcome it with open arms, as long as I get the chance to make a little dent in his plans, I’ll be happy!” finished Jennifer with a very eager, almost giddy expression on her face. It looked like a huge weight had been lifted off her shoulders, that was a very exhilarating feeling, Harry knew all too well.

“Excellent Jennifer, then if you don’t mind, can I ask you to begin a task for me?”

Jennifer’s expression hardened as she replied, “ Anything, what is it?”

Harry, smirking at her willingness and asked; “Can you open three of those cell phone things and get them set up for us, I am afraid you are going to have to teach me how to use it for I have no clue?”

Jennifer smiled as she relaxed a little bit, she was thinking he was going to make her go and kill somebody or something. As sure as she was, she was in no mood for some sort of gang type initiation, “ Yes of course.” Jennifer said as she made her way to the side table where Harry placed the bag upon their arrival. Opening the bag, she got to work, as Harry looked back to Krista.

“I won’t lie to you Harry, this whole thing is kind of sudden. I mean, I had a feeling that HE would return, but I always hoped that he wouldn’t and life would go on as normal.”

Said Krista with a slight dreamy look on her face.

"If life were only that easy, trust me, I wish he would've never returned. Unfortunately, not only did he return, but he used my blood while he forced me to watch as he did it." Harry finished as he turned away from Krista and towards the sliding glass door. Krista wasn't sure what to say, she read the articles where Harry proclaimed He had returned, but hearing about it first hand, was something completely different.

Harry walked over to the sliding glass door, reached out and grabbed the handle, he paused. Suddenly Harry's hand glowed for a few seconds before the glass door slid open and as Harry crossed the threshold, He felt a spell hit him, but somehow he knew he was not in danger. Looking behind him, Harry spotted Dobby disappear from his seat on the couch, then Harry sensed his presence behind him. Turning around lightning quick, Harry stepped over to the side just as Dobby re-appeared facing where Harry was standing a second ago.

"I thought it would...." Said Dobby as he realized Harry was not standing there anymore. Before he knew it, Dobby felt something push him in the middle of the back and he fell flat on his face. As Dobby stood up to Harry's laughter with a little frown on his face, he continued, "I altered your appearance back to James Harrington, I knew you would come out here and people could see you, the kind of people who are looking everywhere for you as we speak."

Harry's laughter ceased immediately, he was so caught up in calming Krista and Jennifer down, he forgot that Dobby had intel for him. Harry paused for a second then he asked Dobby to return inside, he would be de-briefed inside, where he could seal the room for privacy again. Dobby obeyed instantly and Harry was left to his thoughts as he overlooked the dance floor of Flourishes. It was several minutes later when Harry heard the sliding glass door open and Krista walked out. Harry was momentarily stunned, the disco lights that were emanating from high above, were dancing off her diamond necklace and it cascaded around her face, making her seem almost angel like.

It was Krista who broke the silence in a very soft, whisper like voice, "I'm sorry Ha....James, I apologize. I have no idea what you have been through, and here I am whining about my little problems. It took

me a little longer then most, but I have decided to take that uncertain path."

"Uncertain path? And just what path have you decided to take?" asked Harry with a perplexed look on his face.

'The path your on silly," said Krista as she put a hand on Harry's shoulder. "It's only an uncertain path, because you haven't told me your whole plan yet." Krista followed up with a grin.

"Are you sure about this? I mean, Jennifer and I have lost our parents, but you still have yours. There is no shame in taking your family and moving to the states, I could pay for everything and your family would be safe." Harry propositioned.

"We never really talked about my family," said Krista as she stared out over the balcony, she continued. "I never knew my mother, she died giving birth to me. She was a muggle, as is my Father. When my Father learned I was a witch, he blamed me for my Mother's death. He said, if I was only NORMAL and not some freak, she might still be alive. The sad fact is that he is probably right."

Harry walked over behind her and placed a hand on her shoulder before he spoke. " That is absolutely ridiculous, you being magical makes no difference during child birth, the only complications that arise are when the Mother is also a witch and the Magical cores clash.

Krista nodded that she agreed with Harry as they stood looking down on people dancing and having a blast, as a small comfortable silence ensued. Harry's hand slipped down from Krista's shoulder to her waist as he pulled Krista into a side hug before she started crying on his shoulder. After several minutes, her tears slowed and she found her voice.

"I'm sorry James, I won't lie to you, it still hurts when I think about it which is why I try not to. My father was rather abusive to me until I accidentally let out a magical outburst and.....well, lets just say I live with Jennifer and her grand parents now. I don't really have contact with my Father anymore, so I guess that makes all three of us parent less. I really don't have a choice in the matter, my best friend, my

sister, is gung ho for this, and I will be right beside her every step of the way.”

Harry brought her head back to his chest and hugged her again as he whispered into her ear, “I’m sorry Krista, I really am. I promise you that I will do my best to prepare you for what is to come and I pledge to do my best to see that you and your sister make it through this madness.”

Krista Nodded into Harry’s chest while thanking him just as the sliding glass door opened and Dobby stuck his head out looking straight at the two holding each other.

“I’m sorry to interrupt, but Miss Jennifer is getting kind of lonely in here, and it’s only a matter of time before she starts to hit on my handsomeness.” Said Dobby as he puffed out his chest while running a hand over his head as to comb the hair that he did not have.

Both Harry and Krista started to laugh as they released the hold they had on each other, and turned to walk back into the suite. Krista walked in first and as Harry walked in, he paused as he patted Dobby on his back, he said “ I’m really impressed Dobby, at my last count, I have three decent jokes in one night, I think I created a monster.” Dobby smirked then closed the door behind Harry, sealing it for privacy before heading over to the lounge area where Harry and the girls were sitting.

Jennifer handed Harry his new cell phone as she turned towards Krista to speak, “your phone is sitting on the end table, over near the fireplace. All the info required is sitting on top, just register and follow my instructions and your golden. Since it is obvious Harry has never had a cell phone, I will help him register his because my is already finished.”

Harry figured that made perfect sense, Jennifer’s was already done, and he was going to need help setting his up, Harry missed the hidden agenda of Jennifer’s little plan, But Krista didn’t. Krista stared at Jennifer, hoping to gain eye contact as she walked over to the end table across the huge suite, but Jennifer was already busy talking in Harry’s ear and showing him his phone over his shoulder.

As Krista crossed their visual, Jennifer changed tactics and grabbed the cell phone out of Harry's hand then sat across from him on the other couch. As Harry stared at her, Jennifer spoke. "Harry, I want to know what your intentions are in regards to Krista?"

Harry just froze up and his face went kind of pale. Harry didn't know what to say, mostly because he wasn't sure himself of how he felt about her. True, she was gorgeous, smart, fit, funny, and a long list of other things, but he didn't really know her. I mean he just met her, although he had a gut feeling that she was all those things, his gut was also saying those things about the girl who's staring at him right now with a very stern look on her face. Harry pondered the best approach before he broke the silence.

"Look Jennifer, I have been absolutely honest with you from the start, except for my alias, everything I have told you has been absolute truth. So believe me when I tell you, I have no idea how to explain how I feel about Krista." Harry finished with a sincere look.

Jennifer, relaxed her crossing arms, as she spoke softly.

"Then can I ask you a more important question, how do you feel about me?...." Harry assumed this was where she was going with this and she was not going to like his answer.

Shrugging his shoulders, Harry began. "I like you Jennifer, I think you're amazing. We have several things in common and I admire your strength, not to mention your super model looks, as you stated earlier." Harry finished with a smirk.

Jennifer who blushed at those words slightly looked away bashfully as Harry continued.

"But like my feelings for Krista, it's just too soon to sort it all out. I will make you a promise though, I will not make a move until I have figured it out for sure okay?"

"ummm okay, I just want to let you know something, I am kind of insecure and....well, I sometimes....I mean....I've never had a boy

friend so I don't really know what to say or do sometimes, and well.....if I do something wrong will you tell me? It's just...you spoke earlier of gut feelings, and well, mine is telling me that you could be the one, and I don't want to jeopardize anything we may have had because I am complete bonkers at relationships." Jennifer finished bashfully.

Harry smirked, he knew exactly what she was feeling. He had those exact same feelings with Cho, always worried that you would do or say something and completely turn the other person away. Harry got up and walked across then took a seat next to Jennifer as looked on.

"Don't worry, I'm not sure what you have read about the "Great Harry Potter," but I assure you it is probably false. I am completely barmy when it comes to relationships as well. I am a straight forward kind of person, I respond better by straight forwardness, I don't play games. I suppose that's why I am so lost when it comes to relationships, I don't understand the rules to the game, so I rather just not play, you know?"

Jennifer nodded her head that she did understand and she started to visibly relax a little bit. Jennifer tossed Harry's cell phone back to him with a smile before speaking. "If were being honest with each other, then I should tell you, I already programmed your phone. I just wanted this time to talk to you without Krista over hearing us." She said with a slight smirk.

Harry smiled as he opened his phone, glanced at the screen, then looked to Jennifer. "you little devil, and here you said you were bonkers at relationships, you little game player." Harry finished while bobbing his eye brows up and down in a teasing way.

"Well, you said it yourself, we do have a lot in common, I too can be straight forward at times, if the prize is worth it." said Jennifer as she scooted closer to Harry bashfully. As the two got closer and closer, just before their lips touched, Harry interrupted by speaking in a whisper. "We shouldn't, remember, not until I've had some time to process all of this, besides we do have some work to do, not to mention, you really do need to show me how to use this cell phone thing." Harry finished as the two slowly backed away from each other.

Just as Jennifer was finishing the short explanation on how to use the cell phone, Krista walked back in and took a seat across from them. Frowning at the closeness between her best friend and one Harry Potter, Krista declared, "All finished with my cell, I already added your numbers to the speed dial like you suggested. So what now?"

" That's what I was just pondering, Harrington Palace, where I am currently residing, has the most excellent dueling room which I suggest we utilize as much as possible before school starts up again. Hogwarts starts on the first of September, when does your school start?" Harry asked.

" Our school term begins on August twenty eighth, but I was thinking, how are we supposed to practice, Krista and I are not emancipated, so we can't do magic outside of school." Jennifer stated as her shoulders slumped with a look of disappointment.

Harry smirked before answering, "not necessarily, Dobby!" Dobby who reappeared sitting next to Krista with a very embarrassed look on his face. "Yes Master Harry, what can I do for you?"

Taking an odd look at Dobby, Harry asked, "Dobby, where have you been just now?....wait scratch that....I don't want to know. The dueling room at Harrington Palace, will it block the magical signatures of any who practice within it?"

"Oh yes Master, Miss Krista and Miss Jennifer can practice all they please without any worry of under age magic restrictions." Finished Dobby with a satisfied look on his face.

"That's excellent, but is he certain, like I said earlier, we are on our Headmasters watch list." said Krista with a slightly worried look on her face.

"Don't worry miss, I am certain. I should know for it was I who built the room in the first place." Finished Dobby as he glowed with pride. Krista replied, "Oh, I'm sorry Dobby, I didn't mean to insinuate anything about your abilities, I was just making sure, for I can not afford to get into anymore trouble."

Dobby nodded his head that he understood before Harry asked a few more questions. "Where about do you girls live, I know Krista is staying with you Jennifer, but where?"

"In West Ham in London, do you follow soccer?" Asked Jennifer as Harry just smirked before stating, "Not really, but I am familiar with United F.C., one of my dorm mates is a big time fan!" Harry decided to take some initiative for he had a couple things he wanted to do before heading home, and it was getting kind of late.

"What are your schedules like until school starts? I mean, do you have chores, responsibilities, a curfew, or anything that we have to plan for? Because I am pretty much open, I do have some appointments to take care of in a couple of weeks, but I am free every day, all day and night for that matter."

It was Krista who said, no we have no chores or anything we have to worry about, we are pretty self sufficient. We can even sleep over if we want, we just tell Jenn's grandparents that were staying with friends, there totally cool with it.

"Excellent, we have a stop to make in Diagon Alley before we go home for the night, Do you girls use trunks at your private school?" As both girls nodded, Harry simply smiled.

"Good, were going shopping again, but it won't take very long, but I will need both of you present. This will help with our traveling concerns between us, but until then, just call me on the cell phone when you are ready to come over, and I will have Dobby or Winky pick you up, okay."

Both girls nodded that they understood as Harry stood up and addressed Dobby. "Dobby could you work on our new friends here and give them beautiful disguises as you are so wonderful at while I go take care of my bill here."

Dobby nodded that he understood and got down to work as Harry left. Several minutes later, Harry returned to see two different Beautiful girls standing before him, Both with long gorgeous flowing hair, one

brunette and the other dark black. Taking a guess, he looked to the dark haired girl and asked tentatively, "Krista?"

The dark haired girl simply smiled before she said, "How did you know?" in a huff.

Harry replied by shrugging his shoulders before laughing and pointing at her necklace.

"Oooohh, aren't you the clever one." Krista said with a smirk before extending her hand towards Harry before speaking, "Hello good sir, My name is Hope, and this is my sister Joy, it is a pleasure to meet you." She finished by putting her hand over her mouth to stifle the giggles that were trying to escape.

As Jennifer and Krista lost control and started to laugh, Harry just smirked to himself as he thought about their chosen aliases. Joy & Hope, the two very things they were giving him. "Dobby, I've said it before, and I'll say it again, you do excellent work my friend, excellent work." Harry finished as he beamed with pride towards Dobby who practically glowed from the praise Harry was showing him. Harry stuck out his arms as both girls settled down as they flanked him and held his arms as Dobby stepped up in front of them. With a snap of his fingers, they disappeared and re-appeared in Horace Whitehead's Magic Trunk shop.

Startling Mister Whitehead upon their arrival, Horace jumped before turning and spotting Harry. "Ahh Mister Harrington, I should have figured, somehow, you are the only one who can bypass my securities and enter my store by apparation. What can I help you with?"

"Well, I realize that you are still working on my trunks, but I need to make an alteration to my order, you see, I need two more of the larger trunks with the same compartments and furnishing as my large trunk, I realize, you can't make all four by the end of this week, so we will stick to our regular timed schedule. However, if you can complete my girls trunks here, the following week, they'll be another bonus in it for you."

As Mister Whitehead looked to Harry, he knew it would be much harder making two large compartment trunks in that time frame, but this Lord paid handsomely for a speedy job. Making up his mind, Horace said, “You know it won’t be easy, but I never shy away from a challenge, especially when there’s such an incentive to complete the task. If you two ladies will follow me to the back, you’ll need to choose your colors and set your security features, I assume you want me to link all four trunks together?” Asked Horace.

Harry shook his head yes as the two girls followed Mister Whitehead into the back, after they disappeared behind the curtain, Harry turned towards Dobby and placed a privacy bubble around Dobby and himself before speaking. “Now that we have a minute, tell me the news you tried to tell me earlier.”

“Yes Master, you were correct, Mister Dumbledore is aware of your absence from Privet Drive. He stopped by Number Four and spoke to your Aunt, don’t worry, she hasn’t told him anything, I think she was afraid of what you would do if she did. He tried to enter your bedroom, but couldn’t.” Dobby smiled as he said this part before he continued, “He has your friends on alert just in case you attempt to contact them and he has several Order members out searching for you, if fact, I think I spotted one near the book shop.”

Harry simply nodded, this was what he was expecting from his Headmaster, before asking Dobby, “Is there anything else I need to know about?”

Dobby shook his head no, before stating, “if it was vital information sir, I would not have let you interrupt my attempts to inform you.” Nodding his head that he understood, Harry canceled the privacy bubble and took several minutes to think about his next move. Several minutes later, the girls returned, and Harry thanked Mister Whitehead for his dedication to his craft. Harry informed him that Prongs would bring the payment for the two new trunks when he picked up his trunks. After saying their goodbyes, the foursome made their way over to a darkened alley before Harry called for Winky, who silently appeared.

Harry addressed the girls first, “All right ladies, we will start in the morning, don’t worry about eating breakfast, for I think Winky can

handle that for us, just give me a call when your ready and Dobby will pick you up, okay?" Harry finished as both girls stepped closer and gave him a hug. Harry said one final, "good night," then nodded for Dobby to take them. Grabbing both of their hands, Dobby thought for a moment before the three of them disappeared. Staring at the spot they used to stand, Harry turned towards Winky with a smile. Without another word, Winky grabbed Harry's hand and the two vanished.

Chapter 7 -- Will Magic

Walking out of his fireplace, completely frustrated, stood the Head Master of Hogwarts. Welcoming the feeling and magic that was emanating from Hogwarts herself, it still was not enough to calm his fury. He sat at his desk and he sank way back into the chair while exhaling deeply. Sitting in silence for several minutes he pondered, how did he lose track of the boy so fast. He had to have help, but I have all of his friends being monitored. It has to be some outside person and that was the thought that scared him the most.

A very powerful stranger, who just happened to stumble onto the boy living in a muggle suburb under the strongest shielding and defensive wards casted by yours truly. No that just isn't possible, Harry must have figured out my alarm charm and disabled it before he left. Thus is where I am lost, How could he have cast a spell to disable the alarm without setting off the alarm. It was all so strange, the magic that was radiating from around Harry's bedroom door was very powerful magic. What was more surprising was the magical signature left by some incident, some ritual, that took place within Harry's room. He had never seen a signature like that, he wanted to explore it further, but he could not get past the ward spell locking the door.

Coming to the only conclusion he could at the time, he called for a full order alert, Harry Potter has been kidnapped by Lord Voldermort. He made sure to keep it within Order ranks, the general public just learned of Voldermort's return, they could not handle hearing their savior has been taken by him. But after just coming from the last order meeting, and hours and hours of searching, Harry could not be found, his signature was no where in all of England. Meaning only one of two things, he has been moved across continent, which is highly unlikely, or he must be under ground. Probably in Lord Voldermort's underground lair somewhere. It always comes down to Tom.

This was messing up everything. All my hard work, hours of strategy and manipulations gone, I needed Harry Potter under my thumb, I know Tom will never kill Harry, not until the night of his seventeenth birthday. I knew he would go for the boy before then but I am surprised that he did so early. He hasn't even turned sixteen yet, but

not to worry. I will get him back before judgment day, after all, I do have over a year. The hard part is going to be keeping his disappearance quiet. I will make a cover story that he is taking private lessons with me to keep the students in the dark.

Glancing over to the shelves to the left of his desk, Albus spotted one of his many magical trackers that were keyed into random places through out the wizarding world. What was catching his attention, was one of them, in the back, was flashing purple. Standing up and retrieving it, he asked out loud, "Location" and the orb flashed before a voice was heard, "Flourishes, Diagon Alley" Setting the orb down, Albus turned towards the floo, and poof, he was gone.

Harry was waking up to a ringing noise that would not stop, sitting up he turned to find the source of this annoyance. Finally spotting it, his cell phone which had vibrated off his night stand and hit the floor. Getting out of bed and picking it up, it finally stopped ringing. Flipping it open, the screen read, nine missed calls. Walking back to his bed, he was about to lye back down when Winky appeared and grabbed him by the hand before ushering him into his new master washroom.

"You have already slept way too long and the girls have been calling every minute for you to pick them up, Hurry up and shower and get dressed before I send Dobby to retrieve them, otherwise, I could have them here before you get dressed?" Winky let her statement linger before Harry got the idea and closed the door behind him as he entered the Shower.

After a very exhilarating ten minutes, Harry walked out of his Master Washroom with the biggest smile on his face. That shower was amazing, he would have to talk to Dobby later to find out what he did. As he was pondering how amazing that shower was, he walked into his previously empty walk in closet, only it wasn't empty anymore.

Two minutes later, Harry was dressed in work out clothes and ready for breakfast. Walking out of his walk in closet and into the huge bedroom, Harry smelt the beautiful aroma that was Winky's cooking. Letting his nose do the walking, he never noticed the two gorgeous girls dressed in tight spandex and half shirts that were lying lazily on

his bed. As Harry sat down and reached for the sausages, A voice called out “ It’s about time!” Shouted Jennifer.

Harry, surprised by the sudden company, slipped right off of his seat and hit the floor with a thump. Jumping back up to his seat to the laughter’s of both girls, Harry reached out again for the sausages as both girls took a seat smiling at the one track mind of Harry Potter in the mornings.

“You Know Harry, I thought you said there wasn’t enough time in the day for food, train, train, and more train, wasn’t that the plan?” said Jennifer with a smirk as she stared across the table to Harry packing it in.

“Yeah....I Know....I think I may have been a little hasty about that, have you tried Winky’s food? It’s like it was hand baked by the Gods.” Said Harry as his fork was getting closer and closer to his mouth so he didn’t waste any time between sentences.

Krista just laughed as she loaded up her plate and began to eat. Very quickly she realized Harry was absolutely right, Wink’s cooking was amazing! As she continued shoveling it in, Jennifer just stared at her best friend, then she looked to Harry coming to the only conclusion she could, Jennifer grabbed a plate and loaded up.

Forty two minutes later, the trio was lounging in the seating area over by Hedwig’s perch. “I think for today, I will show you the dueling room and we can start a little research after I get a read as to your spell knowledge. I’m sorry about this morning, I am still getting used to planning my own schedule as appose to having my relatives plan it out for me. Before you guys go home, we will set up a schedule and I will stick to it, I promise. The first suggestion I’m gonna make is we work out before breakfast, then research followed by dueling and spell building.” finished Harry just as Hedwig flew into the room and landed on Harry’s shoulder.

As both girls oooooed and ahhhed over how beautiful Hedwig was, Harry was stroking her feathers as he was whispering into her ear. After several seconds Hedwig flew off of Harry’s shoulders and took a few laps around the room before landing on Jennifer’s shoulder. She

lightly nipped at her ear as Jennifer let slip a few giggles before jumping off and landing on Krista's shoulder before starting to do the same. As Krista started to giggle as well, Hedwig returned to Harry's shoulder and leaned in to nip at his ear again, only she didn't, it almost looked like she was whispering to him. Harry started to laugh as Hedwig flew off and went for some food near her perch.

"What did you tell her, and more importantly, what did she tell you?" Asked Krista with a no-nonsense look on her face. Harry just laughed as the two girls stared at him, waiting for a response before Harry shrugged his shoulders before stating, "What me and my familiar discuss is no business of yours, thank you very much." Standing up, Harry walked towards the dueling room with his head held high and strutting like a snooty pureblood. As Jennifer just stared at Krista with a frustrated look, Harry asked them, "well, are you just going to sit there or are you ready to see your torture chamber for the rest of summer?"

With one last look of uncertainty, both girls got up and walked to the room Harry just entered. Jennifer walked in first and just as Krista entered, the door slammed shut then made a loud sucking noise as it sealed. Both girls walked over to where Harry was standing as they looked around the room.

"What is this room Harry? I will say, it's kind of huge for a dueling room. Not that I have been in a lot of dueling rooms, actually I've only been in three, but you could fit all of them in this room." Said Krista as she was still talking in the massive room. Harry didn't think it was all that big.

"It looks bigger then it actually is, it's just because it's unfurnished. Trust me, once you see what this room does, you'll find out just how small this room can be." Harry said with a smirk before he continued, "Remember I said I wanted to see your level of spell knowledge, well this room will help me do that."

"And just how is it going to do that?" asked Krista. Harry smirked before answering, "Have you ever casted a strong stunner at something or someone before?" As both girls slowly shook their heads no, Harry nodded. "Okay then, we start easy, you do know the

spell, I will be looking at three different things, your power level, your accuracy, and your quickness. I want you to continue shooting until you hear session ended."

"Okay, but what are we shooting at?" said Jennifer still looking around. Harry just laughed as he walked over to the observation area where a little screen was. Harry punched in a few buttons and he said something out loud that either girl couldn't quite hear. Suddenly, the lights dimmed and four robed people appeared, two standing, and two crouched down. The two people that were crouching down low, fired stunners at both girls.

Not really sure what was going on, both girls dived apart, each pulling out their wands as they dived away. It was Krista that fired first, hitting the person standing on the right side, catching the person on the shoulder, spinning him before he fell. Jennifer's first shot zoomed over the head of the one crouched down on the left side, before shooting again hitting her target just before he shot again, leaving two left, one standing and one crouching.

The remaining two people started darting from left to right rather quickly while the one that was crouching was firing rapid stunners. Jennifer rolled farther to the left distracting the one firing as Krista rolled forward and a little to the right, firing while she was coming out of the roll. The first shot missed wide, but the second spell hit the one standing, leaving the crouched one firing at Jennifer the last one left.

Jennifer dodged as the spells were ricocheting off of the wall, spraying her with pieces of tile and floor as she rolled back away from the wall. As she came out of her roll she cast a strong shielding spell just as a stunner was heading right for her, it slammed against her shield and shot back towards the shooter. Not hesitating a second, as soon as the spell rebounded off her shield, she dropped it and fired two stunners at different heights. The rebounded spell shot well over its head just before the two stunners hit, one in the face as the other hit the chest.

Both girls regrouped before the lights came back on as a voice stated, "Session Ended, results calculating, target examination will begin now." The four robed figures rose up from the ground and flew over

towards the wall, lined up perfectly as both girls just stood there, staring at each other.

“Not bad girls, not bad, come over hear and lets take a look at the damage.” Harry declared, startling both girls. “You could have gave us some kind of warning what to expect, at first I thought those were real people.” Stated Jennifer.

“And what fun would that be?” Harry said teasingly. “I wanted to get a realistic score for your first assessment. Are you ready to learn from this session?” Krista, who slightly pushed Jennifer to keep quiet, nodded yes.

“Okay, first, I want to say that you both did really well for a first session. Neither of you got hit, which is good. A couple of things though, Krista, the first target you shot at was the one that was standing still and not firing, this was not your immediate threat. The one shooting at you should have been your first target. Jennifer, when dodging, never roll towards a wall or any fixtures unless you can completely shield yourself behind said object. As you found out the hard way, when someone is rapid firing at you, your best result is a strong shield, or to roll away from any residual damage. You took far more damage off the walls then you would have if you rolled the other way. One thing I was very impressed with was both of your dodging abilities. I know some really excellent duelers who have trouble dodging. Jennifer, you casted that shield before you fully came out of that roll, if you hadn’t, you would have been hit, and Krista, firing those stunners coming out of your roll was bloody brilliant.” Harry said as he smiled at her.

Both girls realized that Harry took this to a whole new level then anything they were thinking. They actually thought they did really good, until Harry explained how much better they could have done it. Harry walked over towards the dummies lined up along the wall to inspect them for damage. After walking by all four dummies, Harry walked over and took a sheet of paper that came out under the screen. Walking over to where the girls were standing, Harry waived them over to the side where three seats materialized before them. As the three sat, Harry continued.

“ Your power ratings are average, don’t worry, I can fix that rather easy.” Harry said with a smirk before he asked the girls a question, “do either of you know where you hit your opponents?”

“The first one, I caught in the chest, the second one I hit twice, once in the face and the other just bellow...I think” Said Jennifer sort of assuredly. Krista took a little longer to think about it before she said; “the first one I caught in the chest and the second one, just above the waist, I believe.” she finished uncertainly.

Harry just nodded before stating, “Jennifer, you were correct, very well done. Krista, not so much, first off you hit your first target in the shoulder, if this were a real scenario, the target you presumed to be down, was in fact not, and just waiting to spring an attack on you. It is very important to watch and pay very close attention to where your spells hit your opponent, a Death Eater favorite is to shield your spell, then act like it hit them and their all weak, then they strike when you least expect it.”

Krista nodded that she understood, and she did, it made perfect sense. She was upset at herself for not realizing where she hit that first target, just now remembering him spinning before he fell, was a classic sign of a side glance.

“Before we start working on your accuracy, I want to try something in regards to your power levels.” Harry said as two dummies appeared back over in the dueling area as both girls just looked at Harry as if to say, “How’d you do that?” Harry asked both girls to fire three of their most powerful stunners in succession at their target. After waiting for them to finish, Harry walked over to the two girls as two fresh dummies appeared.

“ A little better girls, but I want to ask you what you were thinking as you cast those stunners.” asked Harry but before the girls could answer, he continued. “Never mind, remember what I said at Flourishes, forget about everything you once thought about how magic worked, think about what outcome you hope to achieve, then will that to happen, you don’t even have to say the incantation. Harry finished as he looked right at Krista before leaning closer to her and whispered some advice into her ear. “Try and remember how you felt

when you made that wall disappear, think of the strongest stunner, then will it to shoot out of your wand and hit a specific spot on your target.”

Krista nodded as Harry walked away, she glanced at Jennifer who already had her eyes closed and was murmuring something just under her breath. Turning towards her target, Krista closed her eyes and thought back to how it felt just before the door disappeared, wanting nothing more than to blast the strongest stunner towards her target, she took a deep breath then let it out slowly as she opened her eyes. Just before raising her wand, she felt a very powerful spell, shoot from Jennifer, who was standing five feet to her right.

Blocking out all distractions around her, she felt an easy calmness come over her, narrowing her vision on her target, she thought of nothing else other than the strongest stunner ever shooting from her wand. As she stared at her wand, without saying anything, a bright orange light shot from her wand, slamming, dead center into the target, forcing it to fly backwards, slamming into the wall before it caught on fire as it slid down to the ground.

Jennifer and Krista were completely stunned, staring at the dummy slowly turning to ashes as it burned near the wall. It was Harry that finally broke the tension that was slowly building. “Which do you think was stronger, the before or after?” Harry asked with a smirk while holding the results in his hand.

Krista chuckled as she said, “Ummm I think the latter. How did I do that?” she finished while pointing at the pile of ashes near the wall.

“Power of will, is something I just recently learned, along with some other things I think you would find very interesting. It is old magic, but depending on the power of a persons magical core, and the determination and need of the use of magic, it can be quite powerful.” Said Harry as both girls were listening carefully.

“So, lets say someone with an above average magical core was suddenly in need of a very strong shield to save their life, will power magic would hold?” asked Jennifer before she added, “ even the Avada Kedavra?”

“In theory.....maybe. The fact is I am still exploring the possibilities of will magic, but it seems you have already grasped the hardest part.” As Krista and Jennifer both looked confused, Harry continued. “The most important factor in will magic is the caster has to believe, without a doubt, that their magical core will respond appropriately. There can be no hesitation and you must have complete focus and concentration, even in the face of the most dangerous perils. This is why it is rarely used these days because most wizards lack the control and focus required to cast, even when your life is on the line.”

“I think I understand, it would be real hard for me to repeat that kind of focus if my target was real and had the ability to shoot back.” said Krista before Harry spoke up again.

“Yes and no, with practice, and I mean real practice, you will get better, and faster. There are several key advantages to will magic, thus the reason I started researching it in the first place. The first is the advantage of casting silently, and when you get really good at it, wandlessly. The second is that most spells have a counter spell, but with will magic, it is coming straight from your magical core and will be slightly different depending on the caster’s intent, making it almost impossible for an opponent to cast a counter that will be one hundred percent effective. I saved the best for last, for the biggest advantage is to cast with multiple intents or progressive spell casting.”

“Progressive spell casting? I’m sorry but you lost me there.” said Jennifer as Krista nodded that she also didn’t understand.

“allow me to demonstrate, now take in mind, I have only researched this, I have yet to really experiment with it yet, but I understand the intent.” said Harry as he walked over to the dueling area and paused while thinking of what he wanted. Suddenly a tall dummy appeared dressed in black robes with a hood on, Harry’s classic Death Eater look-a-like practice dummy. As both girls stepped over towards the observation area, Harry mentally prepared.

Both girls were kind of excited, this was their first time watching THE Harry Potter in action, live and in the flesh. Not knowing what to

expect, both girls came to the same conclusion. Seeing how powerful Krista's will magic was, Harry's is going to be something of legend.

Looking back towards Harry, they waited for the show to begin, and a show is what they got. As Harry raised his wand towards the DE practice dummy, a single purplish gold spell blasted from his wand and hit the robbed dummy square in the chest. As it flew backwards, its robes started to shred, then they caught fire all before hitting the wall. After crashing against the wall, all its limbs locked up in a body bind, and as it dropped, face forward, ropes appeared out of nowhere and wrapped around the dummy several times, finishing just as it hit the floor.

Harry walked back towards the girls as they were meeting him half way, "that was completely awesome Harry, I have never seen magic so powerful before." said Krista as she looked at him with a bit of awe. "Yeah Harry, totally cool, I caught like three different spells in there." added Jennifer.

"Actually it was five, I may have been pushing it there, but I couldn't resist. Until you have practiced using your magical core in this way, it can be magically exhausting, but do you see the possibilities this kind of power provides?" Asked Harry as both girls nodded before Harry continued. " You see, according to my research, that spell would have mostly got through most magical shields, and it would free me up to cast another on a different target before that one even finished unraveling. Lets just say, after some practice, I will have a few variations of certain spells locked up and ready to fire."

Both girls nodded as they smiled at Harry, with him as their private tutor, they will probably learn more magic this summer than they did in all of their time at Private School.

Harry decided that this was a good start for now and for the next couple of hours, he ran both girls through various accuracy and speed drills. As the trio sat down for a well deserved lunch provided by the wonderful Winky, Krista brought up a sort of sore subject with Harry as of late.

"So Harry, it's kind of hard to hear stories about you without also hearing about your legendary friends, Hermione and Ronald. I figured they would be here like every day during the summer, aren't you guys like inseparable?"

Harry was silent for a moment, he hadn't had time lately to really think about how he felt about his friends. Krista and Jennifer were doing a fine job of distracting him from those types of thoughts. Finally, Harry decided to answer her. " You know, it's been a real awakening for me these last couple of weeks. I have discovered that I have been manipulated by not only my Headmaster, but also by the very people I once called my friends. If there is one thing that really makes me hurt, it's betrayal and being lied too."

As Harry sat there, he started to reflect back to all those times in the past five years at Hogwarts that Ron and Hermione had his back. They have been through a lot, true it was mostly Harry who did most the fighting, but in several instances, he would have never made it without them. But it was the simple wondering of whether they had befriended him because of who he was or because Albus Dumbledore wished it so, that kept him awake at nights.

Coming to a self realization, Harry decided his course. " I Think I will have a serious talk with them upon my return to school, maybe even ask them a few questions under a modified truth potion. If they pass that, I will ask for an unbreakable vow to never spill my secrets, something very similar to what you girls did, then I will feel comfortable enough to let them into our plans."

Both girls nodded their heads that they understood before Krista pointed over Harry's shoulder towards the back window near Hedwig's perch. "I think you have some post coming Harry" said Krista. Sure enough, a large grey owl, swooped into the room and dropped a small stack of letters at Harry's feet. It then flew over to Hedwig's perch, stole a little food, drank a little water, then flew out the window, disappearing.

Harry picked up the stack and rifled through the letters, there was one from Ron, Hermione, Mrs. Weasley, Hagrid, and Cho Chang. There were three letters from Luna, and three from Remus Lupin, four

letters from the twins, and seven letters from Ginny. Harry was thinking of how strange it was they all arrived together like that just as Dobby appeared to answer Harry's un-asked question.

"I put a temporary block on all incoming mail a few days ago, I just recently released the block, so all that mail was brought to you by the post office." said Dobby as Harry nodded. "I hope that was okay Master, I knew you were not in any mood to accept any post anyway, and at least this way, you could say you never received it or only just did. That would explain why you never wrote back, that is if you wanted an excuse, sir." Dobby finished a little hesitantly until he witnessed Harry's smile begin to form.

As Harry was thanking Dobby for his quick thinking, he witnessed Dobby go rigid, then his eyes began to slightly glow green for an instance and then it was over as Dobby spoke.

"Master, we may have some trouble heading our way." Harry jumped up out of his seat as both girls did the same while brandishing their wands.

"What is it Dobby, Death Eaters, Dementors, werewolves, what and how many?" Harry asked very rapidly but he froze and hearing Dobby's words.

"No Sir, much worse, Albus Dumbledore will arrive within three minutes time." said Dobby as he looked about Harry's amazing suite, wondering what the Headmaster would do upon seeing it first hand.

"Don't worry Dobby, I will meet him outside and keep him away from my bedroom, but it wouldn't hurt for you to seal the room the way you did last time." Said Harry as he answered Dobby's fears before he addressed them. Harry thought he would have to investigate this link between him and Dobby, but right now he had other things to deal with. Standing up to head outside, Harry was interrupted by Jennifer.

"What about us Harry, should we have Winky take us home or can we watch from the side window, I would like to see first hand this manipulative Headmaster of yours." as Krista nodded that she too

wanted to stay and watch. Harry thought about it for a quick second as he looked over to the side window, he made a decision.

“I don’t think that is safe, Dumbledore is a very clever wizard and he could sense you or something.” Harry finished before Dobby interrupted, “Harry you must head him off now before it is too late, don’t worry about the girls here, I will take care of it.” Harry nodded to Dobby as he opened his door and bolted for the backyard. Making it outside, Harry sat at the backyard porch and waited, trying to act casual while mentally preparing himself as to what to say.

Meanwhile, back in Harry’s room, Dobby finished sealing off the room much like he did the last time only this time he used Winky’s help to make it even stronger, then he turned to the girls with a little smile, “follow me girls, I have something much better then staring out an old window.” said Dobby as he lead both girls into Harry’s walk in closet. Dobby waited for them to enter before closing the door behind them, then he placed his hand just below the light switch as both girls watched his hand glow for a second before a side panel along the wall opened up.

Both girls were still looking around at this huge walk in closet and everything that was in here, walking over to the little lounge area, they both took a seat while the side panel was still opening. Once it finished, it revealed a beautiful huge TV screen with full audio and picture of the backyard where they saw Harry sitting on the porch, playing it cool. Over on the left side of the screen, were about six little monitors they displayed various camera positions around the surrounding neighborhood.

“Wow Dobby this is some set up, does Harry even know this is here?” asked Krista as Dobby blushed slightly before shaking his head no. “ You are full of surprises aren’t you Dobby,” Jennifer teased as Dobby’s blush deepened. “oooo quiet, look, the Headmaster is approaching, I wish I hade some ...” but Krista was interrupted by Winky who popped in holding two big bowls of popcorn. Handing one over to Krista as Jennifer scooted closer so they could share it, Winky walked over to the other lounge couch and patted the seat next to her for Dobby to sit. Once seated, the four of them watched eagerly while

silently munching on popcorn, "this is going be interesting," thought Dobby.

A/N: Sorry to leave this little cliffy, but this was the best place to end this chapter. The confrontation between Harry and Dubledore is so long, it would have made the chapter super huge, don't worry though, Chapter 8 will be posted real soon.

Thanks again for reading and please Review :+)

Ginnyfan99

Chapter 8 The Confrontation

Albus Dumbledore appeared out of nowhere, at the end of Privet Drive and immediately pulled out his wand and began testing the wards guarding the entrance to the tiny suburb street. Thankfully, he took care of things many years ago, so Harry would never be visited by any wizard friends. The anti wizard wards that he casted here were borderline illegal, but who could blame him, he was protecting the boy-who-lived. Imagine his surprise when Harry was found missing just before the start of his second term. Who knew Arthur's wonderful flying car invention, would completely bypass such strong magical wards.

After several minutes, Albus discovered just what he assumed, No witch or wizard has been on Privet Drive since his last visit. Stowing away his wand, Albus made the short walk down to number four while thinking over the information he recently gathered at Flourishes. There was strong magical residue in one of their most costly private suites, which of course the pure blood Death Eaters were all to fond of renting. Something was telling him that he needed to check on that magic that was emanating from Harry's room, he now had a few ideas upon how to enter. This was his main reason for returning to Privet Drive, what he was not prepared for, was the teenage wizard sitting on the backyard porch.

Not sure how this was possible, Albus's mind jumped to a number of possibilities, all of which started with the fact that this could not be the real Harry Potter, it must be a trap. Albus pulled his wand and instantly sent a quick blast of orange light towards Harry who dodged to the side as Albus' spell blasted into the back door, sending tiny bits of the screen door flying across the porch. Harry, coming out of his roll, withdrew his wand, using will magic, Harry thought of his strongest stunner. Blocking out all other distractions, Harry's focus became so clear that he could actually see magic in the air and Albus seemed to be coming at him in slow motion. Harry didn't over react, he paused and waited for the perfect moment to strike.

Dumbledore sent out a magical pulse towards Harry, as the wave of magic got closer to Harry, it rippled as it got displaced and shot right through him. Albus was dumbfounded, in all of his life, he had never

seen some one who could displace that particular spell, shield it, or deflect it, maybe, but to manipulate it enough to allow the spell to pass right through you, was absolutely unheard of. He was so startled by this amazing feat, that he never heard or saw any movement before the purplish gold spell was seconds upon impact. Albus raised a powerful shield, and thinking quick of what to cast next, he made up his mind as Harry's spell hit his shield. Unfortunately for Albus, he never got a chance. Harry's will power stunner flew straight through the Headmaster's shield, slamming into Albus' chest, knocking him backwards, stunning him completely.

Albus slowly woke up and opened his eyes. Looking about, he was not sure where he was or how he got here. Cursing himself for getting into this situation, he just sat there, magically tied to a chair. He tried to send out a pulse of magic, but nothing happened. Trying to look around as much as he could, he realized there was a magical suppression charm placed around his chair. As he looked around more and more, Albus recognized where he was, the question was how did he get here and why? For now he found himself trapped and tied up, in the Shrieking Shack. Albus relaxed, thinking of his options for escape, he was interrupted by a voice coming out of the shadows.

"Who are you and why have you attacked Harry Potter?" said Harry stepping out of the shadows, facing Albus.

"Harry Potter.... I think not, the real question is, who are you and what have you done with the real Harry Potter?" returned Albus maliciously.

Harry laughed as Albus just stared dangerously at him, getting tired already of this banter, Harry decided to just get right to it. Walking closer to his prisoner, Harry stopped right before him and pulled something out of his pocket as he knelt down so he could look at Albus in the eye.

" Well, we will see just who you really are, I think you are aware of this little potion." asked Harry as he dangled the little vial of truth potion in front of his eyes. "I don't have the time or patience to wait to see if you are using polyjuice potion, plus, if you truly are Albus Dumbledore, I have a few questions that I would love the truth on."

“ Harry? Is that really you?....your magical signature has changed....that is why I didn’t recognize you.....had I known....I would never have attacked....but you have been missing....we assumed you were kidnapped by Voldermort and....”

“Enough....I am sorry, if you are the real Headmaster or not, I am doing this, I am no longer putting my life in the hands of others.” Harry interrupted.

Albus started to fidget in his seat, he was extremely nervous, if this was the real Harry, the secrets he could let slip under the influence could ruin everything. Years of hard work was slipping between his fingers as Harry popped the top of the vial off, and reached towards Albus’ face to administer said potion. Running out of time, Albus tried one more tactic.

“ Harry, my boy,not to worry...it is I....there is no need to administer that truth potion, the consequences of dispensing that potion by an unqualified, under-aged wizard, is a major violation. You have to use reason, I know you don’t want to spend time in Azkaban, think about what Sirius would want for you.” Albus finished as he gave his best, Grandfatherly look as his eyes were twinkling madly away.

Harry paused for a minute as he looked into the face of the Headmaster, what he saw, was the smug grin that was hidden just under the surface. Harry began to truly ponder the consequences of his actions, but the more he thought about it, the more he realized he could justify his reasoning to any disciplinary board. Making up his mind, Harry smiled as Dumbledore’s grin slowly disappeared. Albus began to use advanced Legilimency as fast as he could, trying desperately to hide as much information as he could before Harry tilted his head back, and emptied the entire vile down his throat.

It didn’t take long for the effects to take place, The Headmaster’s face grimaced as it appeared he was trying to fight it. Harry had a small list of questions prepared, what he wanted most was the truth, and this seemed the only way to get that. As Albus’ eyes began to cloud over, Harry knew it was time to face the music.

Stepping closer to the Headmaster, Harry began, “ please state your full name?”

“Albus Dumbledore” replied the Headmaster in a very raspy voice.

Harry, who glanced over to the side table where a quick-quotes pen was scratching away, thought to himself, “that is odd, I thought his full name was much longer?” shaking that thought away, he continued.

“Why did you attack me earlier today?”

“Your magical signature is not recognizable, therefore I came to the only conclusion that makes sense, that you are an imposter and not Harry Potter.”

Harry smiled, for at least he was telling the truth about that. Now the real fun is about to begin, thought Harry as he knew what was to come.

“ How do you know when I leave Privet Drive and why?” asked Harry.

“ I placed several alarm charms through out Privet Drive, as well as a locator charm placed on your magical core, but that has stopped working as of late.” Albus finished as it looked like he was in pain.

Harry knew he was capable of something like that, but to have spells casted on himself, without him even knowing it. Harry wondered how he did that, then he thought off all the times he laid passed out in the hospital wing. Getting angry Harry asked, “ is the locator spell, the only spell you actually casted on my person?”

“No” replied the Headmaster in a sad, raspy voice.

“Tell me every spell you have casted on me, especially the ones that are still active.” demanded Harry in an angry tone.

Albus grunted....as he paused from answering the question....he began grinding his teeth....then suddenly he let out a small cry of pain...then began to speak rather fast and very quietly. Harry just

stood staring at the Headmaster as he rambled on, several minutes later, he finally stopped. Albus just looked up to Harry sadly as he began to cry, Harry wasn't sure if those were tears of remorse or tears of pain.

Harry wasn't sure how to proceed, this was unexpected, he was going to ask the same question, but demand he speak slower. Then a thought came to Harry and he turned and made straight for the quick-quotes pen and looked down at the paper. Listed out and numbered was everything the Headmaster just said, briefly looking over the list, Harry glanced down to the bottom of the page, where he was astounded to see the last one was numbered twenty seven .

Harry was starting to get angry, but now was not the time for it, he had many more questions that he wanted answered. Letting the quick-quotes pen get back to work, Harry walked back over to the crying Albus, without showing any concern, he continued.

“Why do you force me to return to the Dursley’s every summer?” asked Harry who was prepared with his follow up question after the Headmaster gave his standard answer of blood wards.

“ Because that is the safest place for you to stay, I placed many wards protecting not only number four, but the entire street.” Harry simply nodded, he could understand that, but couldn’t those wards be placed at any place he stayed in, why does it have to be with people who hate him.

“Why do the Dursley’s hate me so much?” asked Harry, he wan’t sure why he had asked this question, this was not on his list, how could the Headmaster know why they hated him, but it just came out. Harry was not prepared for his answer.

“ Because, with all the wards placed on that street and on that house, it would affect any wizard living in said residence. Thus the need to place you in the muggle world. I also needed them to keep you inside most of the time, for your protection.”

“ Wait, what about me, I am a wizard, how does it affect me, and how did you get the Dursley’s to keep me inside?” asked Harry trying to understand the Headmaster’s reasoning.

Albus, once again, grimaced as he hesitated in answering Harry’s question, until again, he let slip a barely audible scream, followed by more tears as he answered. “ You are not affected by the wards because of the magical suppression charms I placed on you, as for Dursley’s.....I had to put a mild aggression charm on them.....it was the only way.....they would not other wise keep you inside.....I..I..” but Albus lowered his head in shame as the tears started to leak from Harry’s eyes.

“ So...they don’t truly hate me....they’ve been forced to treat me the way they have. That does make sense....for sometimes when they would lock me in the cupboard...they would have this look in their eyes....and when Vernon would hit me....the same thing.” Harry said as he reflected on all the times the Dursley’s hurt him over the years. As the reality of what the Headmaster had done to him began to sink in, Harry just looked at Albus with the most disgusted look on his face.

After several seconds past, Harry had to get more answers, he was running out of time. He would have time to get upset and vent later, but now he needed to stay strong. Harry stepped closer to the Headmaster and spoke in a troubled voice, “ Why? What good could possibly come from having my only living relatives beat me into submission on the regular? Why have them hate me?” Harry finished assertively.

As Albus looked at the defeated Harry, he tried to formulate an answer without revealing the second prophecy, he had made it this far without letting it out. “...That night....that tragic night....Tom accidentally transferred part of his magical core into a temporary vessel before he was vanquished, that vessel Harry was you. Tom Riddle has corrupted his magical core so drastically that it is almost pure evil, so much so, that if you were shown too much love, it could react violently with your magical core. There is not much documentation on this type of dark magic, I did what I thought was best, what would keep your magical core intact.” Albus finished somberly.

Harry just stood there for a second before he asked, "Did you experiment, how did I react as a baby to love? What about as I got older, like when I was five? Seven? What made you assume that this so called piece of Riddle's magical core that is supposed to reside within me, would react negatively to love?" As Harry finished he noticed the Headmaster look even more downcast than before, he then realized that he had never thought about any of that until he heard it seconds ago from Harry.

Albus was on the verge of spilling too much, gathering his thoughts as much as he could, he spoke. "Harry....you don't understand the type of magic we are talking about, it is very dark magic thus making it extremely unstable. There were not many options available to me at the time and I did the best that I could to keep you safe."

"Safe.....safe....I have been a lot of things over the years....but safe was rarely one of them. It seems to me....I have been in more danger with you making decisions on my behalf than I would have been left at an orphanage."

Albus was a little hurt by this revelation, he had made a few mistakes along the way, but he was truly doing what he thought was best to keep Harry safe and alive. Looking at Harry's crushed look on his face, Albus spoke quietly. " Harry, you don't know what life in an orphanage is like, I wouldn't wish that on anyone."

"No, but you would wish that I be locked up in a tiny cupboard and beaten regularly, with no friends and no family that cared about me. At least at an orphanage, there would be someone to look after me, and I might even have slept in an actual bed instead of the cold hard ground inside a cupboard and maybe made a few friends other than the spiders and rats that frequented my living quarters." Finished Harry in a cruel tone.

Albus had never really heard the stories first hand how Harry was raised, he only monitored his magical core to make sure that Tom's portion was still stable, but hearing Harry talk like this, made Albus realize just how wrong he had been. Trying to bridge the gap between them, or at least start too, Albus chose his words carefully.

“Harry, I am truly sorry for how things ended up, I never wished any of this to happen to you, but the fact of the matter is, it is Tom Riddle that is to blame for your troubled life, not I. Lord Voldermort is the reason your life got so messed up, once we put an end to him, you will live the rest of your days in peace.”

“ That is where you are wrong Headmaster, you had the resources and the power to make things different for me. You could have placed me with a loving family and had me trained properly. I could have gone through extensive physical training as well as magical training, and could have entered Hogwarts on my eleventh birthday ready and prepared as possible. Who knows what would have happened if that Harry met professor Quirrell down in that chamber, I may have ended things right then and there. Or what about the other three times I have met him before his return. No you thought it would be much better for me to be uneducated, beaten regularly, have a bad case of malnutrition , and basically unloved and unwanted. I can see you really thought things through.” Harry finished angrily.

As Albus listened to Harry speak, he was feeling worse and worse to how he handled things. He was about to speak again when Harry interrupted him.

“ As of now Headmaster, you no longer have any say in my life. Seeing how well you have done with the first sixteen years of my life, I have decided to take the few years I have left, into my own hands. I will still fight this war on Voldermort, but on my own terms, I will not follow your lead any longer.” Harry said assuredly.

The shocked look on the Headmaster’s face was priceless, it took him almost a minute to realize what Harry had just said before answering, “Harry...as much as you hate me right now...you are still underage and as such, it is my responsibility to take care of you. I have taken many liberties to make sure of your safety, if you would only follow the rules I have made, you will be fine.”

“You don’t seem to be understanding me Albus, I am no longer under your control, I will not be a pawn in your master chess game any longer. If I have to, I will withdrawal from Hogwarts and leave the

country all together, if that will help get my point across" Said Harry with a little venom.

"Harry, you can't be serious, you are still underage, and in order for you to take the kind of control you are wanting, you would have to fill out many waivers and have my signature on them, and I am telling you right now, that I will not grant you that permission to do so. Really, to leave Hogwarts, what about all your friends? You know you would miss them terribly." Albus finished with a slight smile for he thought he had finally beaten Harry.

At hearing the mention of his friends, Harry had to smack himself, for he almost forgot to ask the one question that was eating him up ever since he visited Diagon Alley, his friends. As Harry looked at the smiling Headmaster, he let a little smile of his own slip before he spoke, " Yes, you are right sir, I would have to get your permission to grant me emancipation, unless there were other ways to get that without Ministry permission." said Harry as he put his fingers to his chin to fake that he was thinking of these ways he could do this, when in actuality, he was already emancipated. Albus just looked at Harry as his smile slowly morphed into a frown before Harry spoke again. " Speaking of friends, Have you ever manipulated or casted any spells on any of them in the past? Please list them for me and tell me everything you have done in regards to my friends." Harry finished with a little smile.

Albus started to panic, this was his biggest fear other then letting the second prophecy out, If Harry discovered some of the things he had done in regards to his friends.... Suddenly Albus started to shake out of control, then he let out a monster scream, so loud that Harry had to cast a bubble charm over his head to save his hearing. Albus began to speak very quietly, murmuring really, before he passed out cold.

Harry did a diagnostic charm to see if the Headmaster was okay, all of his vitals were okay, although highly stressed, he would be fine in a day or two. Kicking himself for wasting so much time, he never got an answer in regards to his friends, but he wasn't worried, he would get those answers, one way or the other. Smiling, Harry called out for Dobby, a millisecond later, Dobby was standing before him.

" How did everything go Harry, the girls were very upset that you two left, they wanted to hear and see the interrogation but I told them we had other plans." said Dobby with a little smile.

Harry laughed, this new Dobby was the coolest, where would he be without Dobby. Smiling at his favorite elf, Harry said, "Dobby, it was an excellent idea to do the interrogation in the shrieking shack, anywhere else, someone would have reported hearing those screams." Dobby just beamed back at Harry as he continued. " Dobby, please take the Headmaster back to the castle, remember the plan, you know where to drop him then come right back, okay?" Harry asked and Dobby nodded as he snapped his fingers and Albus magically untied himself then floated over to where Dobby was standing. Dobby reached out as the Headmaster flew towards him, the second before it looked like there was going to be a major collision, they both disappeared leaving Harry slightly shaken before he busted up laughing as he thought, "I love this new Dobby!"

Harry spent the next few minutes cleaning the shack and removing all signs of anyone's presence all together. Waiting for Dobby to return, Harry pulled out the note pad that he stashed before cleaning the room, as he turned towards the back, he thought to himself out loud, "The Headmaster defiantly passed out before spilling everything needed to answer that question, I know it, but he did mumble something." Not wanting to get his hopes up to much, he flipped and flipped until he reached blank pages. Backing up a few, he reached the last page that had writing on it, skimming through the last few paragraphs he found the question, then he read something interesting. Apparently, Albus said a few words in that agonizing scream that almost deafened Harry. Too..... Close..... to..... the..... Prophecy.....

Thinking this was very curious, what prophecy was Albus referring too, was this a new prophecy or the same one that got Sirius killed. Did the Headmaster even tell me the truth, no there must be a second prophecy. Wondering which of his friends Dumbledore mentioned before he passed out, it couldn't have been more then one or maybe two, probably Ron and Hermione. Reading the last few sentences, Harry was stunned into silence. This is where Dobby

found Harry when he popped back into the shack, standing aloof, holding a note pad, with a complete blank look on his face.

“Master....Harry....are you okay sir?” said Dobby nervously. Harry turned his head slowly towards Dobby as he spoke, “I have been so wrapped up in myself, I never once thought about anyone else, I mean sure, my parents, and Sirius, but that’s where I stop. I never once gave a single thought about anyone else, Remus, my friends, even the Dursley’s, there are so many people involved in this, and all I was thinking about was myself.” said Harry as his blank expression changed into a face of determination. “Well not any more, my eyes are wide open and I am going to start helping my friends, starting with this one.” finished Harry as he waved the note pad around.

Dobby reached out for the pad and Harry handed it over. Dobby read the only sentence after the long scream....Magical core suppression.....enhanced time release confundus charm....Neville Longbottom. Dobby handed the pad back to Harry and he stowed it away, then he stretched out his hand towards Dobby, who instantly grabbed it and the two disappeared from the spooky and scary Shrieking Shack.

Chapter 9 Blood Brothers

Harry and Dobby appeared in what seemed to be a rather large forest, where they actually were was in the backyard of the Longbottom Estate. As Harry looked around trying to figure out why they arrived here, he was thinking of the Longbottom Mansion, shouldn't he have arrived at the front door or gate even. Harry was brought out of his musings by Dobby who explained everything.

"Harry, we are on Longbottom property, however, the wards protecting this place are very strong. I can not get any closer to Neville then this without raising the alarms, especially with what Hogwarts is discovering right about now."

Harry nodded that he understood, and Dobby was right, what was he thinking rushing here, without a plan. That is something the old Harry would do, but then he remembered why he rushed here, Neville. Walking a little to the right, Harry spotted three large greenhouses, but they were so far away he couldn't see anything inside or anyone around.

As Harry was about to go home he had a brilliant idea, getting a little excited, Harry hoped this would work. Looking back to where Dobby was standing, Harry asked, "Dobby, can you tell if Neville is in the mansion?" Dobby nodded his head no as Harry continued. "Well, I guess we'll find out soon enough, if this works." Harry finished while pulling out his wand.

Taking a moment to focus on exactly what he wanted, suddenly Harry's wand glowed bright gold, getting brighter and brighter before a blinding white glare shot from his wand. As a large gust of wind followed, the trees swayed all around them before coming out of the trees, was a beautiful white Stag. Harry smiled, it had worked, and boy did it ever, he had never seen his patronus so solid looking before. Harry reached out his hand and the stag immediately respond stopping just short from his outstretched hand. Harry spoke to it, "I need to deliver a message to Neville Longbottom, and him alone, can you deliver it without anyone else seeing you?"

The stag just bowed his head as he went from a bright white Stag to slowly changing lighter one until he was completely invisible. Returning to the bright white stag, he stood and peered into Harry's eyes. Harry nodded that he understood, this was amazing, he was communicating with his patronus, the advantages of this and all the ways he could utilize this, was making Harry's smile grow larger and larger as he watched the huge stag take off at a charge towards the property.

Inside the Longbottom manor, Neville had just finished eating and was still sitting at the enormous dinning table, all by himself. As he got up from his chair, he was trying to decide between heading to the greenhouses for some experimenting or to the potions lab to practice when he caught a glimpse of something white shoot past him from the hallway and enter into the library. Getting a little nervous, Neville pulled his wand, and slowly entered the side entrance into the library. As Neville knew this library like the back of his hand, he climbed up near the back, to the top deck area where there was a two foot wide shelf that houses hundreds of portraits that surrounded the entire library. Walking along the shelf, Neville had a full view over the bookshelves and of the entire library. Looking for the intruder, Neville was surprised to see no one, nothing, the library was empty.

Jumping down, Neville was thinking of getting his eyes checked as he went to leave the library, but as he turned left down the hall, he was interrupted by a huge bright white stag. As he raised his wand, he instantly realized that he was in no danger, in fact, this was a beautiful stag, and who did he know that reminded him of a stag... Harry. Lowering his wand, the stag walked closer to him and peered into his eyes, suddenly a message in Harry's voice was heard inside Neville's head, "Neville, it's me.....Harry Potter....I need your help.....and I have some information that I think you will find quite interesting.....if you can....I am waiting outside in your backyard forest.....this is as close as I can get....your Grandmother has excellent wards in place.....either lower the wards....which if I were you...I wouldn't do....or meet me outside where we can discuss further.....I hope this message finds you and finds you well.....your friend.....Harry."

Neville just stood there at a complete loss, he had no idea what to think. Still staring at Harry's beautiful patronus, Neville couldn't believe how real it looked, as he reached out a hand to pet the stag, it suddenly disappeared. Coming to a decision, Neville ran straight to his Grandmother's personal office, that he was never allowed in without her permission. Reaching the desk, he found what he was looking for, a detailed map of Longbottom Manor, looking towards the backyard forest, he found two small dots blinking away, labeled Harry Potter and Dobby Potter. Verifying the information from the patronus to be real, Neville turned and bolted for the rear forest.

Coming in from the side, Neville finally spotted them, they had moved a little from where he had seen them on the map. He was about to make him self seen when he was interrupted by the House Elf so he stayed back and waited for the conversation to end before announcing his presence and maybe scaring the Great Harry Potter to have a really cool story to tell the other dorm guys.

“ Harry, what if he never got your message, are we going to stay out here all night sir. I mean, it has been a rather long day, think of the girls, they've been waiting for you for many hours very worried about you. Not to mention Master, the school has found him and he has been moved to a private suite at St. Mungo's, he is expected to make a full recovery in five to eight days. Winky made me promise to tell you that she will come after you personally if you do not take care of yourself.” finished Dobby shyly before, after several seconds of Harry just standing there not saying anything, Dobby stopped being embarrassed and became much more stern. Walking over to Harry, Dobby pushed him and Harry stumbled backwards before catching himself at the last second as he came back at Dobby.

“Whoa there Dobby, I didn't say anything.” said Harry as he waved both hands in front of his face as Dobby approached so as to say cease fire.

“Oh you were about to Harry...I Just know it....go ahead...I'm ready.” said Dobby as he waved his hands to signify, bring it on. Harry just looked at Dobby, waving his hands like that, Harry was about to lose it when, at the last second he held in his laughter and continued.

“Look Dobby, I was only going to say...I think it’s great that you and Winky are together and everything.....really...I was laughing because five to eight days was longer then I suspected, so my brewing was proven effective, and another thing, as for if we are going to stay out here all night, that answer is no.” said Harry as Dobby smiled for he finally got Harry to return. Then Suddenly Harry started to smile more and more until Dobby knew he was in trouble. Harry finally spoke, “You can return home Dobby for the night with the GIRLS and I will stay right here and send out more messages to Neville until I reach him, because that’s what friends do, I won’t let Neville down, I refuse too!” finished Harry assertively, before smirking and adding, “besides you have a woman to worry about now, so the single, dateless, and guys that aren’t getting married, will stay here and do what must be done.” he said teasingly.

Dobby smirked right back at him before relenting, “You are right Harry, it’s what I would have done for you, so I realize why you have to do it for Neville and I will stay right here with you no matter what Winky says.”

“Wow Dobby, are you sure?.....she might not talk to you ever again if you defy her?” Harry let the question linger until Dobby cracked. “Do you think she will do that Master?” said Dobby nervously.

Harry just laughed, he loved how when Dobby was scared or nervous he would call him Master, when he was proud, he would call him Lord Potter-Black, and when he was being himself, he called him Harry. After several minutes of laughter, Harry said, “I’m sorry Dobby, I was just messin about, but it’s good to know that you are scared to lose her, that just means that you care about her very much, and seeing how she is also someone that I care deeply about, may I suggest that you never hurt her too deeply, I would hate to have to make our little sparring sessions, full contact, full magical power.” Harry let the threat linger as Dobby’s eyes grew large.

“Ohhh no Harry, there is no need for that, don’t worry about me hurting her, instead you should be worrying about her hurting me? I mean, what if she brakes my heart?” finished Dobby as he shrugged his shoulders at Harry.

“Well if she does brake your heart, which I am told most women tend to do, I have a little advice for you. One, life’s tough, wear a helmet and two, if it doesn’t work out between you two, think of all the fun you two could have along the way, isn’t that worth anything, so just relax and be yourself.” Finished Harry smoothly as he pulled out his wand and shot a body bind spell off into the distance, startling Dobby.

Running over to his downed target, Harry realized it was Neville, he immediately felt bad and reversed the spell right away apologizing profusely, as Neville was standing up brushing himself off.

“No that’s okay Harry...really, I should know better then to try and sneak up on Harry Potter” said Neville with a little smirk as Dobby appeared to be overly excited. Neville gave Harry the head nod as if to say, “what’s with your Hose Elf?” Harry just smiled as he answered, “Don’t mind Dobby Neville, he is only happy because he can return home to see his girlfriend while we talk for a few minutes, does your Gran know your out here, we can talk here but I prefer something more private, why don’t we go to my place for a few minutes, what do you say?”

“Actually Harry, My Gran doesn’t know I’m out here because she is gone on a two week researching vacation, she always extends the Manor’s wards when she leaves, which is why I thought you may be a Death Eater or something, no one has ever actually made it this close, you are actually on Longbottom property. Come on, we can hang out here, trust me, it’s the safest place anywhere when Gran leaves.” Neville finished as he and Harry both chuckled at that, Harry knew his Gran, and he believed it. As the two walked shoulder to shoulder, Harry called out over his shoulder to Dobby. “You can go home now, I will call you when I need to, say hi to the girls for me.” Harry finished but he was too late, Dobby was long gone.

Harry and Neville walked for a few seconds before Neville stopped while holding Harry back, “We can’t go any farther until I key you into the wards,” said Neville as he pulled out a square gold plate that could fit in the palm of your hand. He asked Harry to place his hand on it, which he did, and Neville spoke very quietly before suddenly the plate glowed bright gold before exploding as a huge magical shock wave burst out, knocking Harry and Neville backwards.

Sitting up, Harry rubbed the back of his head while he asked Neville, "Wow, that was different, is that supposed to happen when you key someone into the wards?" Neville, who was standing up and started to dust himself off for the second time tonight as he answered, "somehow, I don't think so, but this is the first time I have ever done it, so who knows, I probably screwed it up somehow like I always do, I'm sorry Harry, are you okay?" finished Neville bashfully.

"Don't worry about me Nev, I'm totally fine, and I don't think you messed anything up, lets just say when it comes to adding me into the mixture, no one truly knows what the outcome will be." said Harry as he smirked at Neville who was finally starting to smile before they both busted up laughing.

As the two got closer and closer too the actual mansion, Neville kept looking around awkwardly as if something was wrong. Harry was going to ask him what was wrong, but they arrived at the back door that led into a huge entry hall and Neville began to give Harry a quick tour. After showing Harry most of the house, he waited to show him the library last, for it was Neville's most favorite place to hang out in the entire mansion, even more so then his own room.

Walking into the huge library, Harry was in awe as he looked around. The first thing he noticed was all the portraits that surrounded the entire room. Neville led Harry to his favorite area, and the two sat down in the very comfortable plush leather chairs. Several minutes passed by as a sort of uncomfortable silence grew, It was Harry that finally broke the ice.

"Neville, I really don't know where to begin, I wanted to....I mean..." Harry tried to start, but he was at a complete loss as to how to begin or even what he should say. How will Neville ever believe him, he will call him crazy and send him off to St. Mungo's.

"It's okay Harry, just say what you have to say, I know you are here to warn me about something, to help me, don't worry, there's nothing you could say that will shock me." said Neville as Harry hoped that was true.

"Well, let me begin by telling you that I have begun to take control over my life, I am no longer letting others make decisions that pertain to my life. With that being said, I have found out some information that is quite startling. Another thing is that me and the Headmaster are not on the best of terms right now and after our little chat, you might join me in that category. Now, I have been training and researching new spells and rare ancient magical methods, one of these ancient methods, is a spell locator charm. I used this spell on myself and found that there were several charms placed on me that I had no idea about."

This wasn't really how Harry found out about the manipulations of one Albus Dumbledore, but it would have to do for now, hopefully after the dust settles, I will have time to tell him the whole truth. Harry was interrupted out of his musings by Neville asking a question.

"What does any of this have to do with me Harry?" said Neville looking more confused by the second. Harry just looked at Neville as he decided he would have to go with the band aid approach, fast, quick, and painful, but at least he could move forward.

"Neville, I have been giving information that I will fully explain in detail at a later time, but for now, let me tell you what I have found out. First let me ask you something, I know how you mention that you think you are completely bonkers at doing magic, what is it that you find so hard about magic? Specifically I mean?" asked Harry, by the astonished look on Neville's face, Harry didn't think anyone had ever asked him that particular question.

"Well...I'm not really sure....I think....I think..." Neville paused here as he looked the most scared Harry had ever seen him before he finally let out his biggest fear. "I think...I think ...I may have been tortured when I was a baby...and now ...I have memory issues....no matter how hard I study....just when I am in the most need of a particular spell....I lose the concept of how to cast it...." Neville finished as he just bowed his head in shame. "I'm sorry Harry, but you really shouldn't waste your time training me.... I don't think I can get you to understand what it's like, how could the most powerful wizard in my generation, know what it's like to be worthless." sulked Neville as he pulled out the D.A. coin from his pocket, and handed it over to Harry.

As Harry played with the coin in his hand, he realized that Neville was far worse than he thought. Handing Neville his D.A. coin back, Harry said "I don't want your coin Nev, and you are not worthless. What if I told you that I know of a way to cure you of that problem and enhance your magical strength, would you try it?" Harry asked hopefully.

Neville, who looked up eagerly as he nodded that he would do whatever Harry had in mind, if only for the slight chance to cure him of his memory issues. Harry just smiled, the hopefulness and eagerness that was displaced all over Neville's face was the Neville that Harry remembered, the Neville that helped him get through some pretty tough times last year.

"Okay Neville, you trust me right?" Harry asked. Neville responded immediately with a yes as Harry pulled out his wand. Using his will magic, Harry closed his eyes as he sent out a pulse of magic that engulfed Neville for several seconds like a tornado. After it passed, Harry opened his eyes as Neville looked over to Harry with a look of awe.

"What was that Harry, it felt so amazing...it felt like....power...I felt powerful for a few seconds" said Neville as Harry looked on sadly.

"Neville, what I did was sort of a test to see if I could cure you of your memory problem, the good news is that I can, the bad news is, I have some more information to tell you that you're not going to like. But let's take care of your memory problem first, okay?"

Neville never heard anything about bad news, all he heard was that Harry could solve his memory problem that has led to his downfall his entire life. Neville just looked on hopefully as Harry closed his eyes again and with tremendous focus, he was able to reverse the time release confundus charm and he began to unlock the magical binding on his magical core, but he could not remove it completely, not yet anyhow as Harry took a seat for he was completely exhausted.

Neville rushed over to where Harry fell back into the chair as he made sure Harry was okay. After Harry reassured that he was fine, just really tired, he made a suggestion to Neville that he try and cast

something to see how much progress was made. Neville was eager to give it a try as he pulled out his wand and pointed it at a book on a nearby bookshelf. Flicking his wand leisurely, Neville shouted, "Wingardium Leviosa" Hoping that the book would raise into the air, he was completely flabbergasted at what happened. The entire bookshelf that the book was sitting on, raised up and went all the way to the roof before Neville snapped out of the shock and lowered the book shelf back to where it belonged. Looking over at the smiling Harry, Neville was at a loss for words. Harry figured he would take it easy on him for now, so he helped him out before he started to cry.

"Now that you have some of your original power back and your memory charm problem is gone, you have a lot of work ahead of you, but something tells me that you won't let something like a little hard work, slow you down." Harry smirked as Neville's smile grew larger.

" I won't Harry, but whatever you did to me, it worked. I can think much more clearly, and I have to know, how did you find that information on me, and how did you know exactly how to reverse it?" Neville asked, but before Harry could respond, a beautiful voice interrupted them.

"I think I can answer that question Neville sweetie.....those horrible spells were placed on you by a very corrupt wizard, who has lost his way many years ago." said the mysterious voice as Harry and Neville looked around to find the location of the woman. Looking around everywhere with no luck, it was Neville that spotted the beautiful redhead who had a hand over her mouth to stifle the giggles that were trying to escape.

"There she is....but I don't remember ever seeing that portrait there before." said a bewildered Neville as he was pointing to the large portrait hanging in the corner. As Harry approached the portrait, he recognized those green eyes immediately, he froze as he just stood staring at the woman who was still trying to hold in her laughter.

"How...How is this possible?....why are you hanging here in Longbottom Manor?" Harry asked as Neville was finally catching on. "Wait...your....your...Lily Potter." Neville said, stating the obvious.

“Yes...I am Lily Potter, and to answer your question son, this portrait was placed here in case of an emergency, and to answer your question Neville sweetie, I have always been here but could only be seen when a Potter heir entered the wards of Longbottom Manor.”

As both Harry and Neville nodded their heads in understanding, Harry couldn't take his eyes off his mother as she spoke again.

“We were facing dark times kids, dark times, and Alice and I made arrangements to protect you kids in case anything happened to us before we went into hiding. I have waited many years for you to enter Longbottom Manor Harry, but I have heard many things here while I was invisible, secrets that would unravel all of Dumbledore's manipulations.”

Neville, who was slowly starting to piece together the information he learned today, had a moment of clarity. “The person you injured, the one in St. Mungo's for five to eight days....is Dumbledore isn't Harry?” asked Neville even though he was sure he was right, he waited for Harry to confirm it.

As Harry nodded that he was correct, he still couldn't pry his eyes off of the portrait of his mother. “Harry, what did you do to Albus?” asked Lily. Harry just shrugged before snapping out of his daze and answering the question. “Nothing too drastic, I just interrogated him under an advanced truth serum, to finally get some answers he's been dodging for years now.” finished Harry with a little smirk. Neville nodded that he was starting to understand how Harry had found out about the spells that were placed on him, but why?

“So that's how you found out that he placed those spells on me, but why did he do it? Why me? It's not like I am any kind of threat?” asked Neville a little puzzled. Harry wasn't sure why either, since he really couldn't answer his questions or put his mind at ease any, he just shrugged his shoulders as a response, but it was Lily that spoke up.

“Neville, Harry, I think the reasons he tried to keep you both as powerless as he could and under his thumb, has to do with a prophecy that was made just after your birthday Harry.” said Lily

“We already know about that prophecy, it was smashed during the battle a few months ago against the Death Eaters in the Department of Mysteries.” said Neville as Lily looked on a little in awe and a little bit frightened, that her Son and Godson were already fighting Death Eaters and they haven’t even left school yet. Shaking those thoughts away, Lily continued as Harry just nodded to agree with Neville, that the prophecy was smashed, even though he already knew what it said, at least what Albus had told him it said.

“No boys, that prophecy you are referring too is about the one with the power to vanquish the Dark Lord, but shortly after your birth Harry, there was a second prophecy, with more information on the type of power the chosen one would yield, and more specifics about the one labeled The Dark Lord, it was a rather long prophecy, which is rare, the seer that gave that prophecy was named Priscilla Lovegood. Alice, your mother Neville, kept the prophecy safe, I don’t know where, but she said it would remain safe until it was needed.” stated Lily with a little bit of uncertainty.

As Neville just stared at Lily, eyes blinking away the tears that were starting to form in little pools as they leaked out and ran down his cheeks. Lily wanted so badly, to reach out and comfort her two children, but alas, a portrait couldn’t give physical comfort, but she could give emotional comfort, just as she was about to speak, she was interrupted by Harry.

“Who all heard and knows of this second prophecy?” asked Harry as Lily had to think about it, it was so long ago...she answered, “Alice & Frank, Sirius, Xenophilius, Peter, Remus, Minerva, and Albus.... I think that is everyone who was present, but if any of those individuals have told others over the years, I have no idea?” finished Lily.

As Harry digested this new information he turned to Neville, “Where do you think your mom would keep something that she wanted to keep secret?” asked Harry. Neville turned as he thought about it, he let out a large sigh as he shrugged his shoulders that he had no clue as to where it could be. “I have explored practically every inch of this manor growing up over the years, I never came across any prophecy.” said Neville as he looked at Harry a little helplessly.

"Of course you wouldn't come across it Nev, she hid it, so no one would accidentally stumble across it. The question is, where would your mom hide something in this mansion?" Said Harry to Neville's puzzled look.

"Neville sweetie, do you mind if I talk to my son for a few minutes, in private." asked the portrait of Lily Potter. Neville agreed right away, as he left the library, he called out over his shoulder, "I'm going to head up to the third floor, that's where my parents office and bedroom is located, maybe it will be up there somewhere." finished Neville as he had this lost look on his face. Harry just nodded that he heard him as Neville vanished from view.

Lily, who was still staring at the spot Neville just vanished from, finally spoke, "You know Harry, Neville hasn't stepped one foot on the third floor in over ten years, he only does so now to help you. He has been through so much, almost as much as you my son."

Harry who sat down on the ground, Indian style, placed his head in his hands as he let out some tears he was holding in since he spotted the beautiful redhead as she continued to speak. "It's okay to cry Harry, you have been through more then any other wizard in history, and your only sixteen.....but I believe in you son, your father and I are so proud of the man you have become, do you think you could tell me a little about your amazing stories....I have heard of some amazing things, but of course the information was coming from Neville unknowingly, according to his version, you grow about ten feet tall, take on a hundred dementors at once and shoot poison gas from your bum." finished Lily with a little chuckle that got Harry to lighten up a little and laugh.

"Well....The Dementor thing actually happened....but the other two are complete over exaggerations....well maybe not the fart thing, I have been known to clear out the dorm room on occasion." said Harry as he and the portrait of his mother laughed. Harry spent the next couple of hours going over everything he had been through, and explaining all the circumstances that surrounded the death of the Potters and who was ultimately responsible for it. Just as they were winding down, Neville returned cautiously, after spotting Harry still

talking to Lily, he turned to leave, but Harry called him in and he took a seat on the ground next to Harry.

“Neville, did you know that our families were the closest ever?....in fact, we are blood brothers and your mom is my Godmother and my mom was yours.” said Harry as Neville just stared at the portrait completely bewildered. “That is pretty cool, but Harry, what are we going to do about the Headmaster?....I mean he is going to wake up and he will not give up on what he wants.” asked Neville

“ I know Neville, that’s why we have to find that second prophecy, if I know Albus, and I think I’m starting too, he has probably wiped everyone’s memory of it except for himself. Until then, we train and we practice, a lot” said Harry as Neville just nodded that he agreed before Harry continued, “I can’t wait to see the new, powerful Neville Longbottom, Watch out everyone, here comes the two most powerful wizards in all of England.” Finished Harry as he tackled Neville to the ground as their laughter filled the entire Library.

After several minutes of wrestling, in which Harry was seriously schooled by the bigger Neville, Harry asked if now that he is keyed into the Longbottom wards, if he could summon Dobby to enter. After Neville told him that Dobby should be able to enter, he was about to summon Dobby when said Elf silently appeared before the two boys scaring Neville as Harry just laughed.

“Harry, it’s about time, do you have any idea how much grief the girls have been giving me?” said Dobby as he heard silent giggles, he turned to find the source of those giggles as he spotted the portrait, Dobby completely froze. Right in front of him, was none other then Harry’s mother. Dobby was at a complete loss for words.

“Dobby, I would like to introduce you to my mother, Lily Potter....Mom...this is my best friend, Dobby.” Said Harry as Dobby’s eyes grew even larger at hearing Harry’s words. Neville just looked on as he silently shook his head from side to side, this relationship Harry had with his House Elf was something of record, he would have to talk to Harry about that later.

It was several minutes later when Dobby finally found his voice again and was seen whispering quietly with Lily for several minutes as Harry was filling Neville in on everything that he had been up to in the last couple of weeks. Neville was most interested in the amazing multi-compartment school trunks as well as the two beautiful girls that were waiting for Harry in his bedroom.

Harry and Neville left Dobby in the library while they worked together searching all over the mansion looking for some secret room or compartment or any clue that would lead them to the second prophecy. After checking the first two floors pretty thoroughly and finding nothing, the two boys headed up to the third floor, Neville's parents floor. Harry had a feeling that if it were in this manor, it would be on the third floor.

Walking down the hallway, Harry was looking from right to left, checking everything out. There was a thick layer of dust on most things, it looked like an ancient tomb or something. As the two boys entered the office area, Neville went to the left as Harry went to the right. Neville began checking behind paintings and asking the portraits if they knew where any secret compartments of his mother's were. Harry went straight to the desk and started to file through all the parchments that were scattered on top and in the drawers. After about almost a half hour in the office, they turned up nothing.

Harry who was still sitting at the desk, leaned back while exhaling deeply, he was getting tired. Neville, walked around to the other side of the desk and took a seat, he too was getting tired. Neville leaned forward placing both of his hands flat on the desk as he rested his chin on the back of his arms and closed his eyes. Harry, who looked across at the resting Neville, he was a little jealous of his peacefulness. Leaning forward, Harry placed his hands flat on the desk, and was about to rest his head as well, when suddenly the entire desk began to glow bright gold for several seconds before a swoosh of wind went through the entire office, startling Neville's eyes open.

What Neville saw when he opened his eyes, he couldn't quite explain, there were three drawers on the right and two drawers on the left with one big drawer right in the middle. All six if these drawers were not

here when he sat down, looking across to Harry's smile, Neville realized they had found something interesting and began rifling through the drawers as Harry ran around to help investigate.

What they found were mostly financial documents and reality holdings and other important papers including Neville's birth certificate and his trust vault information. Neville was really happy that they found this stuff, but this was not what they were looking for. It was Harry who finally figured out, that the secret desk only activated when they both had a hand on the desk. So the two boys went around the office placing both of their hands on everything, with no luck. Then suddenly Neville got a bright idea, and yelled for Harry to follow him as he took off running.

Ending up back in the library, both boys were breathing heavily as a startled Dobby was still sitting cross legged in front of Lily. Neville walked up to the portrait of Lily Potter with a little smirk on his face. Harry finally catching on, walked over as well. As both boys slowly reached out with a hand to the bewildered looks of Dobby and Lily, their excitement was building. As their hands touched the painting, another bright gold light blasted from the portrait for several seconds just like before, as the light disappeared, a slight clicking noise was heard, and the entire portrait swung open like a door, revealing a small little shelf with only one thing sitting right in the middle, a pensive memory.

Chapter 10 -- A Secret Revealed

Reaching in, Neville slowly grabbed the memory and pulled it out from the hidden shelf behind Lily's portrait. It was very cool to the touch, almost as cold as ice, as Neville just stood there, holding the memory and staring at it with the most lost look on his face. It was Harry who finally snapped Neville out of his trance.

"Ummm Nev, I think Lily would like to return to her normal position, if you don't mind, but if you want to stand there, staring at that pensieve memory for longer, you just go right ahead." Harry finished with a little smirk. As Neville backed up, Lily's portrait closed, Lily who was straightening herself up, looked down at Neville and then at the shinny bottle.

"Ohh my, what could that possibly be?" said Lily as she looked just as surprised as Neville was only not as nervous or scared before continuing, " I am so sorry boys, I know you were hoping on finding that prophecy, but that isn't it. The prophecy looks like a small sphere, similar to ummm...a remembrall, if you know what that is?" finished Lily as she looked from Harry to Neville, noticing the looks and smiles that were forming on their faces, she was sure she was missing some inside information as Neville finally spoke.

"Yeah...Mrs. Potter, we know what a remembrall is, I for one wish I hadn't." said Neville jokingly as he looked back down at the glass bottle that was firmly held in his grasp. His smirk slowly formed from that of mirth, to a face of worry and fear. Believing that he had some what of a clue as to what was going on, Harry walked over and placed a hand on Neville's shoulder as he spoke.

"It's going to be alright Nev, whatever it is, we'll face it together, besides, it could only have been found by both a Potter and a Longbottom, so it was meant for us." Harry finished assuredly. Neville just nodded that he heard what Harry said, but he wasn't convinced.

"I know Harry.....it's just....II....well I mean....I don't remember my parents very much.....what if...what if this is some memory of them all happy and having a good time.....I just....I don't know if I'm ready for that yet....It's hard for me to talk about my feelings towards them."

finished Neville as he stared at his feet feeling completely embarrassed. Looking up at Harry to judge his reaction to hearing his fear, he noticed a far away look in Harry's eyes, Neville followed Harry's line of vision until he was led back to the portrait of Lily, and then Neville almost smacked himself in the forehead, how could he be so self centered.

"I'm so sorry Harry, ...I wasn't thinking....I mean listen to me...whining about not knowing my parents when at least I still have them apart of my life....even if it is only in a physical way.... I meanwell.....if anyone could understand what I am feeling..it would be you." said Neville with a slight smile. Harry looked back at Neville shaking away thoughts of what life would have been like with his parents still alive, he smiled back at Neville before calmly walking up to him and looking him right in the eyes.

"No Nev, your wrong, I have no idea what life has been like for you. How it feels to visit them, time after time and be reminded of the pain those bastard Death Eaters put your family through. But after seeing a memory of my mother for the first time, I'm starting to get an inkling of what your talking about. But there is one thing I have learned over and over again, and that's life isn't fair, at least not for our generation. All because of one crazy psychopath that decided long ago to wage a war on all of wizarding England. So the way I see it, we really only have two choices, fight or flee. I don't know about you, but I'm really tired of running and hiding. This is a war, and my life may turn to shit or even end, but I refuse to go quietly. I will make sure they never forget the name Potter." Harry finished with fierce determination, so much in fact that Neville could see powerful magic rolling off of him in waves. Neville had never seen such power before and as he stared into Harry's eyes, he felt a surge of power deep within himself. Riding on the coattails of this new found strength, Neville decided that he had to be strong in this war, for his family, for himself.

Neville's face turned from timid to total determination as he spoke. " Make that Potter and Longbottom." he finished while holding out the pensieve memory for Harry to take from him before he continued, "So what do you say, you ready to see this memory that was meant for only us?"

Harry smirked as he took the bottle from Neville, he always knew there was a fierce wizard hidden in their somewhere. Neville added a little less confidently, “There is one other thing Harry, I have only ever entered a pensive memory one other time and it wasn’t very enjoyable. So if I mess up or do something wrong just tell me okay?”

Harry laughed as he said, “don’t worry, I know exactly what your talking about. My first time, I had no idea what was going on and I was a little freaked out to say the least. It really is pretty simple, I’ll explain everything to you but Nev, do you even have a pensieve around here somewhere?”

Neville thought for a second before answering, “My Gran does, but she keeps it locked up when she leaves town.” before both boys could figure out what to do next, they were interrupted by a voice they completely forgot was still there.

“Not to worry, Harry has one. I took the liberty of removing it from your vault in preparation for your new school trunk which I will be picking up tomorrow. It is currently shrunk and sitting in your closet sir with the other supplies.” finished Dobby with a proud smile.

“Dobby!...you brilliant little elf you” said Harry as he rushed over to Dobby and engulfed him in a hug, lifting him off the ground to Dobby’s protest. Finally setting him down Harry was about to ask Dobby to retrieve it for them before he was interrupted by Dobby.

“Before you even ask it Harry, I will NOT retrieve it for you, if you want the pensieve, you will have to return home to get it. I refuse to take any more verbal beatings by those vicious information demanding girls you call friends.” Dobby finished stubbornly as he crossed his arms across his chest in a show of defiance.

Neville and Lily were holding in their laughter as Harry just smirked at Dobby, thinking over his options, Harry had a good idea and decided to go for it, even though Neville was voting on returning to Harrington Palace so he could meet these famous hot girl friends but Harry knew they would want an information debriefing, and it would be hours before they got to enter the pensieve. Plus, his idea had a little bonus

involved, it would teach Dobby to never question another command again.

Smirking at the defiant Dobby, Harry spoke out loud to Dobby's shocked face, "WINKY" instantly, Winky arrived silently right before Harry.

"Yes Master Harry, are you okay, what is it you need from me sir that Dobby here could not provide" asked Winky as she looked curiously over at Dobby who was bashfully staring at the ground.

Harry was loving it, watching Dobby squirm under Winky's glare, he would think twice before disobeying him in the future. "Actually Winky, I need you to retrieve the Potter Pensieve, which Dobby has shrunken and stored in my closet back at Harrington Palace." Finished Harry as he watched Winky's expression harden towards Dobby.

"Yes Master, I can retrieve the pensieve for you, but it is still not clear why Dobby could not do this, I was quite busy keeping the girls distracted, they have been worrying about you all night." said Winky.

" I know they have Winky, and I really do appreciate everything you have done today to make things easier for me, as for Dobby here..." Harry paused as he watched Dobby squirm a little more before continuing, "Dobby is a little exhausted, magically, and I thought you could do us this little favor so he didn't have too, but if it's a problem or something, I'm sure Dobby can do it." As Harry finished talking, he noticed Dobby's demeanor changed completely as he was nodding to Winky that he agreed with Harry.

"That will not be necessary master, I will return shortly, is there anything you wish me to pass on to the girls that will attack me upon my arrival?" asked Winky as Dobby visibly began to relax.

"Yes actually there is, tell them not to worry, I am completely fine, maybe a little tired but totally fine. I will not be returning home tonight, so they are welcome to sleep over or you can return them home, either way is fine with me. Also, Tell them that our training session for tomorrow will be cancelled because I have a few things to take care

of, so I will call them sometime tomorrow after I return home." finished Harry as Winky just nodded that she understood before she vanished silently.

" Umm Harry...I've been meaning to ask you...why is it that your House Elf's seem to somehow, do magic that no other House Elf can do, like apparating silently?" asked Neville as the portrait of Lily was nodding her head to signify that she was thinking the same thing.

Harry and Dobby looked to each other, not sure how to respond to that question. Harry had intended to do some research regarding that very thing, but he hadn't had any time lately to really look into it, he was about to say that very thing before Dobby interrupted him and changed the subject.

" Harry, Thank You for keeping me out of trouble with Winky, she would have been extremely upset with me for ignoring a command....I will not question your judgment again Lord Potter-Black." Finished Dobby as Harry smiled, he had won this little battle between friends, he was sure there would be others, and he was looking forward to them.

"That's what I am talking about Harry, Dobby completely refused to retrieve the pensieve even after you commanded it, I have never seen a House Elf disobey an order without severe punishment, and the way you two banter back and forth, it's almost like you guys are more friends then..." Neville stopped his line of thinking as Winky silently appeared before them as she looked between Neville on one side and Harry & Dobby on the other side.

"I'm sorry, did I interrupt something?" asked Winky as all three in question shook their heads no. "Where would you like me to place the pensieve?" asked Winky. Harry looked to Neville who thought about it for a second before he said, "why don't we head for my office, I think that will be a good place for us to enter." finished Neville as some of his nerves were starting to return as he lead the way to his personal office area.

After Winky had placed the re-sized pensieve on Neville's desk, she said her goodbyes to the group and vanished, leaving a smiling

Dobby, a Confident Harry, and one slightly less confident looking Neville, all starring at the pensieve.

Harry decided to get things rolling, he turned and faced Dobby as he spoke, “I want you to return to the Palace for the night, if I need anything I will call you. If the girls are still there, tell them not to worry, but don’t tell them anything else. I haven’t decided how much to disclose yet, and I won’t know until later, so keep it zipped, and pass that onto Winky for me.” Harry finished and Dobby was about to say something, but then decided against it and disappeared.

An awkward silence began to grow very quickly until it was smashed by a very confident

Neville who shouted, “All right, let’s do this!” while clapping his hands and letting out a

large exhale. Harry had to chuckle, seeing Neville hype himself up like this was not

something Harry had ever seen before, but we all have our techniques he thought before

saying, “yeah Nev, let’s goback to the future.” Harry finished as he emptied the

memory into the pensieve and watched it swirl and swoosh around before looking over to

Neville.

Walking up to the pensieve, Neville looked down at the silverish liquid and stared at it for a few seconds. He then looked up to Harry with a very determined look on his face and nodded. Harry nodded back, and the two boys leaned over and entered the pensieve.

The first thing Harry noticed was that it was really dark wherever they were, standing up, Harry looked around for Neville. Spotting him standing up about five feet to his right, Harry called out to him, “Hey

Nev, over here." Neville walked over to where Harry was while looking around the small room they were in.

"This is kind of weird Nev, usually there is someone within seeing distance upon entry, I mean this is someone's memory right?" Harry asked out loud as Neville was still exploring the room with his eyes.

"I think we are somewhere in the Castle, Hogwarts I mean." said Neville as Harry nodded that he agreed when suddenly a small door opened across the room, and with it came a blinding light that made both boys cover their eyes with their hands. When the light subsided, they looked up to what looked to be a meeting, sitting at a small table was Albus Dumbledore, Lily & James Potter, Alice & Frank Longbottom, Remus, Sirius, and Peter, and three other people Harry didn't recognize. Before Harry could say something to Neville, he was interrupted by some light giggles, looking towards where the sound was coming from, Harry and Neville stood frozen as they glanced at what was making that noise, sitting in two magical high chairs, were two very little babies.

As Albus began to talk, Harry was snapped out of his stupor, tapping Neville on the shoulder, Harry made way closer to the table with Neville on his heals. When they reached the table, they listened in to the conversation as Albus was speaking, both trying their hardest to pay attention and not stare blindly at their long lost parents.

"I know you are both really scared at what this new prophecy has predicted, but let me assure you, that there is nothing to worry about, prophecies do not always come true."

The Headmaster finished as he smiled with that Grandfatherly twinkle in his eyes. Harry was beginning to hate that twinkle.

"But Albus, this prophecy is different, I have never heard of one so specific, I mean it mentioned both boys by name, and as for their powers it's just..." But Lily was cut off from finishing that thought by Albus.

"Calm yourself Lily, I know what the prophecy stated, and I assure you that it has no bearing as to our mission. Those boys will hopefully

grow up healthy, never knowing the pain of a war that they were born into.”

“Albus, we must take stock of this new information, with the specifics given, we could finally shift the momentum of this war in our favor for the first time in years.” stated Frank as the others all nodded their heads that they completely agreed.

“Look, Lily and I took some time dissecting this new prophecy, most of the specifics are very clear as to whom it is referring to, but there is this one line, in the middle that we had trouble deciphering who it could be talking about.” The true power behind the Dark Lord lies within his biggest secret, for the light will shade, spreading blackness throughout, making him the true power behind the throne.

“Who is that referring to Albus, the power behind the throne? Could there be someone behind Riddle calling the shots?” asked Sirius as the entire table looked onto the Headmaster for his wisdom.

“It is hard to say, that is the thing with prophecies, they are so vague, they could be referring to a hidden power that Voldemort has or it could mean a hundred different things. The thing you must remember about prophecies is that they only matter if you take stock in them, by hearing this prophecy, you are already taking measures that will help in making it come true. If you had never heard this prophecy, most likely it would never come true. The best advice I can give you in regards to this prophecy, is to do nothing, in time it will become irrelevant.” Albus finished confidently as he declared this meeting over by rising from his seat and excusing himself, saying that he had some school business to attend to and left the room.

The remaining people sitting at the table never moved, they sat quietly looking to one another as to how to proceed. “Something is not adding up, Albus knows more then he is letting on, I can feel it.” said Sirius as Remus was staring at the door Albus just left as if wishing he would return and tell them what they should do next.

“Do nothing...this prophecy was very specific and I for one plan to take measure to protect my baby, Do Nothing...He can’t be serious!” finished Alice with a very stern look on her face.

“Of course he isn’t serious, I’m Sirius!” said the Black Heir with a smug smirk as everyone chuckled except for Lily who smacked Sirius hard on the shoulder for making a joke at this time, especially a joke as lame as that one. “For Pete’s sake Sirius, don’t you think that one is a little played out?”

“Wait... what does Peter have to do with it?” asked Sirius. This made everyone laugh again, even Alice was amused at how easily Sirius could get under Lily’s skin. “Will you quit playing around, we are talking about the lives of our children, Harry and Neville, remember them?” asked Lily as everyone turned to look at the two bouncing boys giggling and playing down at the other end of the table.

“I know Lills and I am sorry, you know I care about them deeply, it’s just I thought the atmosphere needed a little tension breaker.” said Sirius as looked to Lily helplessly.

“Everyone at this table has nothing but the best intensions for Harry and Neville, otherwise we wouldn’t even be here, with that out of the way, lets get back to the topic James mentioned earlier, The power behind the throne.” said Frank

“It is possible that there could be someone over Riddle, but the fact that Albus wouldn’t even question that is what has me worried.” said Lily

“What exactly did this second prophecy state, and for that matter, I never really heard the first prophecy entirely?” asked Peter as James and Lily shared a look with one another as did Frank and Alice.

“We have decided that the less people who know the specifics of those two prophecies, the better, sorry Peter but we are not telling anyone, even Sirius doesn’t know.” said James as the others just nodded along that they completely understood keeping those prophecies secret.

“We do have record of the second prophecy, but it is kept in the most secretive place only Frank and I know. Right now I think we need to

discuss the measures Lily and I must take to ensure the safety of our boys." Finished Alice

Harry walked around to the other side of the table as the group began to discuss how they were going to protect the two infants, he walked over towards the three people he didn't know and turned to Neville who was listening to his mother talk with rapt attention and tears in his eyes and asked, "Hey Nev, do you know who any of these three people are?"

Neville slowly turned his head without taking his eyes off of his mother until the last second, looking over the three people, Neville shook his head no and went back to listening to the group discuss their safety measures when suddenly the door banged open and that blinding light once again disrupted their vision. When it subsided, Harry and Neville witnessed a very strange occurrence. The Headmaster had re-entered the room and did a very rare, mass *obliviate* spell, Harry and Neville were stunned.

Once everyone had a blank look on their faces, Albus lowered his wand as one of the three strangers spoke, "It's about time, I was afraid they were going to leave before you returned, what took you so long?" asked the unknown stranger.

"I had to take care of the others who have heard the entire prophecy, the last remaining people are in this room, once I have finished, I will be the only one who knows of the details of the second Prophecy." said Albus with a slight smirk on his face.

"Don't you mean you and I will be the only ones who know of the prophecy." said the unknown stranger with a huge smile, a smile that was slowly disappearing as he watched Albus raise his wand and point it right at the stranger's forehead. "No ...I had it right the first time...I will be the only one...information as important as this...needs to remain safe...and as I am the only one with the knowledge, I can assure it remains safe until it is no longer applicable. Sorry old chap." finished Dumbledore as he *obliviated* the last person with the knowledge of the second prophecy.

Harry and Neville just stood completely dazed, Harry had guessed that the Headmaster would protect the knowledge of the prophecy, but obliterating his fellow peers and close friends, Harry would have never guessed that he was capable of that, but he was beginning to figure out that there was a lot that he didn't know about the Headmaster.

Harry watched as Albus finished with his manipulations and left the room. It only took a few minutes for everyone to snap out of it as they all looked to each other completely confused. As Lily and James began to discuss why they were all here for they couldn't remember why, Alice stood up from the table and excused herself for a minute with Frank leaving seconds afterwards, following his wife. Neville and Harry knew something was up and immediately went after them.

Leaving the room, Neville noticed Frank and Alice just entered another room just down the hall. Running towards the door, Neville walked right through it with Harry right behind him. Once Harry entered the room, he looked over near the window seat where he found Frank and Alice sitting closely together talking, with Neville sitting cross legged right at their legs. Harry walked over just as Alice began to speak.

Neville leaned in to whisper to Harry that Frank had just asked Alice what had happened, he somehow knew that they had been obliterated. Both boys turned to Alice to hear her explanation. Alice was clutching her necklace tightly while she began to talk, "It was the Headmaster Frank, I don't know what his motives are, but if it wasn't for our family heirloom, who knows how far he would have gotten... we have to do something." finished Alice as she was beginning to panic.

"I wish I could help you my love, but I had no protection on, so I have no idea what you are talking about, but as I said before, I trust you completely, if you say the Headmaster has obliterated me, then he has, what we have to do is...." But Frank was interrupted by a flashing blue light that was pulsating from Alice's necklace. Both Alice and Frank's expressions looked panicked. It was Frank that declared what she must do...and do quickly.

"It's wearing off, the Headmaster is awfully powerful, I don't think the protection charms on that necklace is strong enough to stop the Headmaster." As Alice looked to Frank with even more concern, Frank Continued. "You have to pull out the memory before the charms on the necklace completely fade away, taking with it, the memory. Alice immediately withdrew her wand while Frank conjured a glass vial to store the memory.

Just before Alice removed the memory she stated out loud, "Neville.....Harry....if you are viewing this memory, and Heaven help us I hope you never have to....but if you are and you are searching for answers...I suggest you start with your family roots....and hopefully I am still around to guide you through what's to come....but if I am not...remember that your Father and I love you very much...and you will find a clue to what you seek hidden within the yellow and the pink." Alice smiled as she placed the tip of her wand to her temple, just as her wand was making contact, Harry and Neville ejected out of the pensieve with force and both stood still gasping air, taking in everything they just learned.

Harry looked to Neville who seemed to be lost in thought, Harry wasn't sure what to make of all this new information, deciding to break the awkwardness, Harry said, "Do you have any idea what that clue means, a clue to what you seek, is hidden within the yellow and the pink.?" asked Harry.

"That's just what I was thinking about, the first thing that came into my mind is....but that can't be.... it's so silly, it must be something else." said Neville as he let out some frustration.

"No Neville, you must learn to always trust your instincts, especially your first gut reaction, it's saved my ass too many times to count. What was it that you were first thinking about?" Harry asked

"Well....it's just...when I visit my parents....my mom always gives me her used bubblegum wrappers....but I don't know....it's just.." But Neville was interrupted.

"What color are those bubblegum wrappers Nev?" asked Harry

“Yellow and pink” said Neville confidently before remembering something and bolting from the room. Harry looked on in silence for a second before running after Neville yelling out to him to slow down. Finally catching up to Neville as he re-entered his parents office, he confidently walked up to the desk and placed his hand on the top, waiting for Harry to catch on, which he did. Once the magic drawers revealed themselves again, Neville rifled through the paperwork, looking for something specific as Harry just looked on.

“I got it!” said Neville excitedly as he waved around some parchment as he walked over to a seat and sat down. Harry walked over and sat next to him as he asked, “ and what is it exactly that you have found Nev?”

“ This, it’s a listing off all the Longbottom properties and holdings, look at the business the Longbottom family owns, the fourth one down on the right.” said Neville as he handed Harry the parchment. As Harry looked at what it said, his smile grew before he looked away from the parchment and onto a smiling Neville as he said, “Well I think we will have to take a little trip tomorrow, to one of the businesses you own, Chewies Bubblegum Factory.”

Chapter 11 -- The New Neville

The next morning, Neville woke up strangely well rested, considering he only slept a few hours, he felt good. After getting cleaned and dressed, he walked down to eat breakfast. What he witnessed as he entered the room was something Neville had never seen in all his years living at Longbottom Manor. Sitting at the table eating breakfast was Harry surrounded by at least twenty House Elf's, Dobby included.

Harry, who just noticed Neville enter the room, turned towards him and said, "Morning Nev, what you want for breakfast, Winky here is doing special orders today, so whatever you want, what's it gonna be?" Harry finished as Neville just stood there slightly dazed.

The House Elf's began to fidget in their seats as the silence began to grow until a House Elf stood up and spoke.

"I am sorry my Lordship but we mustn't be taking up any more of your valuable time, truly the honor was mine and I look forward to our next discussion. Lord Potter-Black, Lord Longbottom." and with a loud crack, twenty three House Elf's disappeared, leaving two House Elf's and one very confused looking Harry.

"Neville, what's wrong Mate? Take a load off, are you feeling okay?" asked Harry with concern in his voice as he rose up and walked over towards his friend. Neville slowly took a seat as he was trying to gather his thoughts just as Harry made his way over to him taking a seat right next to him. Harry waited a few seconds for Neville to get himself together before prompting him. "So what's wrong Neville, you thinking about what might be waiting for us later today at the bubblegum factory?"

Neville was about to speak when he stopped hesitantly and took a shy glance over at Dobby and Winky who were sitting at the table eating breakfast still. Harry noticed Neville's discomfort about addressing whatever was bothering him in front of the House Elfs. "Dobby, Winky, can you two give Neville and me a few minutes to talk in private, I promise it wont take long and you can return to your breakfast soon, I would greatly appreciate it." Harry asked as the two House Elf's popped up out of their seats immediately. Dobby simply

smiled as he disappeared silently, but Winky asked if she could bring Neville back some breakfast upon her return. Neville's shy nod was all that Winky needed as she too disappeared silently leaving Neville and Harry alone.

It took Neville a few seconds before he looked over at Harry and began to speak very quietly. "Harry.... Who were all those House Elf's and why were you eating breakfast with them?"

"What do you mean Nev, those were your House Elf's....don't tell me you didn't know that? Is that why you were so startled when you came in?" asked Harry. Neville looked even more shocked then before. " All of those House Elf's were....mine?" said Neville looking very disturbed and down right embarrassed that he didn't know a single one of them.

"Yes Neville....well yours and your Grandmother's, they are the Longbottom House Elf's, some of which have been working here at Longbottom Manor for decades." finished Harry as he was trying to disguise his anger at the thought of some purebloods like Neville that took for granted all that House Elf's do for them without even the simple decency of recognition. Harry would bet all the gold in his vaults that Neville probably didn't even know two of their names and if he did, he knew that Neville couldn't pick them out of a crowd.

Neville looked down at the table, he couldn't look Harry in the eyes. He knew that Harry was upset, he could tell by how his tone had changed, and really he couldn't blame him, he was also upset, upset at himself. Why hadn't he even thought about it before, al those times he had asked for assistance, never thinking twice about who was serving him, not even thanking them. As Neville finally looked up, he met Harry's gaze and without expressing it in words, Harry understood.

"It's alright Nev, it's how you were raised, most purebloods never think about those who serve them, it's just expected. I would love to see what they would do if one day all the House Elf's in England just stood up and left, they wouldn't know what to do, how to cook, half of wizarding England would starve to death." Harry finished as he laughed out loud at the thought of that and Neville slowly joined in.

“Your right Harry, but it’s still no excuse, it’s not like I’m four years old anymore, I should be more aware, I’m sorry.” Neville finished as he looked over at Harry.

“Don’t be sorry Nev, just take the time to acknowledge all that they do for you and your family. It also wouldn’t hurt to talk to them with normal conversation instead of just barking orders around, you never know, one day one of your House Elf’s could save your life, mine certainly did.” Harry finished with a huge smile.

“Your right Harry, and I promise things will be different from know on.” Neville smiled as Harry nodded. “You take House Elf welfare to another level, Hermione would be proud.” Neville finished as Harry’s smile slowly faded at the mention of Hermione’s name, something that did not go unnoticed by Neville.

“Harry can ask you something?” as Harry just nodded, Neville continued. “About Hermione and Ron, I understand about how you feel that they betrayed you but are you sure, I mean it could be all a misunderstanding or worse, another manipulation from our favorite Headmaster.”

“I know, you might be right, I didn’t have enough time to ask Albus about how he manipulated Ron and Hermione, or even if he had. All I got out of him before he collapsed was how he Manipulated you.” Harry finished as he called for Dobby and Winky to return to help change the subject. Winky sat down a plate full of food in front of Neville and the two House Elf’s returned to their plates of food.

Neville looked up towards Winky and said, “Thank you Winky for the breakfast, I was starting to get really hungry and I appreciate you taking the time to cook for me, you really didn’t have to.”

Harry simply smiled as Winky responded, “Lord Longbottom, there is no need to thank me, I love to cook, and breakfast is my specialty, at least that’s what my Master tells me.”

“Winky, how many times do I have to tell you to call me Harry, not Master, and you are incorrect, Neville does need to thank you for

your generosity, and so does anyone else that you cook for, and if they don't, then I don't want you cooking for them again, is that clear?" Harry asked as Winky bashfully nodded that she understood. Winky looked over to Dobby who shared a glance with her as they both smiled. Without saying a word, they both understood what the other was thinking, Their master was constantly breaking barriers, who knew where this would lead to, maybe an entire generation who respected House Elf's and maybe even granted them privileges that humans had, but that was just crazy thinking, wasn't it?

As Neville began to dig into his breakfast, he murmured that this was excellent breakfast, Harry didn't lie when he said that Winky's specialty was breakfast. After wolfing down the breakfast and thanking Winky again, Neville went up to his to gather a few things leaving Harry alone with Winky and Dobby.

"Dobby, can you return to Harrington Palace and bring me one of the unused cell phones, I would like Neville to have one, have you heard from Jennifer or Krista today?" asked Harry as Dobby shook his head no before Winky spoke up.

"I returned them to their homes late last night, they asked me to have you call them later after you return home from your errand with Lord Longbottom." said Winky as Dobby disappeared only to return moments later with a brand new cell phone still in the box.

Taking the box from Dobby, Harry opened the phone and did his best to set Neville's up. He still wasn't completely confident about working the phone, that was Krista's specialty, but he knew enough to activate Neville's and get his number. Pulling out his own cell phone from his pocket, Harry turned the power on and started to store Neville's new number in his memory just as his phone began to vibrate. Clearing the screen, he noticed that he had several missed calls and a few new voicemails. Trying to remember what the girls had taught him, he finally figured it out and listened to his messages. He thought to himself how cool these cell phone things were as he listened to Krista and Jennifer worrying over where he was.

Neville walked in just as Harry finished with his messages and he called Nev over to him.

"Here Nev, I got you a little gift, this is a cell phone, do you know what they are?" asked Harry as Neville took the phone from Harry as he replied. "I do, but I am not sure how they operate." said Neville a little confusedly. After several minutes of detailed explaining, Neville felt confident about working the phone, mostly. After storing Harry's phone number, Harry had him store Krista and Jennifer's as well. Neville was a little reluctant to, seeing how he hasn't even met them yet, but Harry assured him that he would and in case of an emergency, they could help out or help find Harry.

After stowing away their cell phones Harry asked if he could check Neville's magical core to see how strong he had grown over night since the binding was lifted on his magical core. Neville agreed and Harry pulled his wand and closed his eye's concentrating on Neville's magical aura. Opening his eyes, Harry noticed that the binding was slightly still there but it was nowhere as strong as it was yesterday when he attempted to remove it. Focusing his power of will magic, Harry attempted to remove it completely, closing his eyes, he felt a rush of wind circle him and Neville. Even with his eyes closed, he could see the blinding gold light that encircled them. After several long minutes, Harry had given all he could, for now anyhow as he lowered his wand.

Slowly Harry opened his eyes to a vividly smiling Neville who was staring at his own hands as if this was the first time he had ever seen them. "Harry, Mate....I don't know how I could ever thank you....I feel amazing....for the first time in my life I feel like a real wizard....I can feel the magic within meit feels.....amazing!!" Harry simply smiled as he was slightly exhausted as Dobby entered the room and rushed over to Harry's side.

"Master...are you okay, your magical core is very low." asked Dobby in a very concerned tone. Harry just smiled at Dobby as he explained. "I'm fine Dobby, I just exhausted myself trying to unbind Neville's magical core." At hearing the concern of Dobby, Neville realized that he was focused on how amazing he felt, that he barely registered how bad Harry was feeling at his expense. Walking over to get closer to Harry to see if there was anything he could do but he never made it

very close as Dobby stepped in front of Harry protectively, guarding Harry from any opposing danger.

Neville took one at Dobby standing in front of Harry and he knew that he was not to be tested, stopping in his tracks and slowly retreating with both his hands in the air to signify that he meant no harm. Neville was starting to get scared before Harry told Dobby to relax, that Neville was a friend and meant no harm, but Dobby would not budge from his stance in front of Harry.

“Neville, it’s okay....can you give Dobby and I a couple of minutes in private, I will meet you in the library okay?” As Neville nodded as he slowly backed out of the room and disappeared down the hallway as Dobby shut the door and sealed it to prevent anyone from entering before turning around and looking bashfully at Harry.

“Dobby, really I am fine....there is no need to attack Neville or seal the room off ...if you could just get me some pepper up potion, I will back to normal in no time.” Harry finished with a smile as he tried to get up before falling back down into his seat.

“No....you don’t understand....in your weakened condition.....someone could take advantage of you.....I am not letting you leave this room until you have recuperated.” finished Dobby with a fierce look of determination on his face. The only thing Dobby was thinking of was how he could get Harry back his strength...in fact it was all that Dobby wanted at this moment. As Harry attempted to get to his feet again, Dobby rushed over to help him up, and when they made contact with each other, a bright gold light erupted from where they were connected as a swirl of wind circled the two of them like a mini tornado.

As the tornado of bright gold light started to fade, lasting only a couple of seconds, when it vanished, Harry and Dobby were left in an awkward silence until Harry realized that he felt stronger, much stronger in fact. Looking towards Dobby, Harry asked, “Dobby, how do you feel? Do you feel weaker or magically drained even the slightest bit?” Dobby took a second to gage his magical strength

before shaking his head that he didn't, if anything, Dobby felt stronger than before the mini gold tornado encircled them.

"I don't know what just happened Dobby, but I feel remarkably stronger, better than I have felt in a long time, and if you are feeling stronger as well, then something is definitely going on between us. I know I mentioned that researching this bond between us was on my to do list, but I think it just jumped to the top of the list." Harry finished as Dobby simply nodded that he understood.

Harry walked over to the door and paused waiting for Dobby to unseal it, then he made his way to the library to find Neville and apologize on behalf of Dobby for his protectiveness. Entering the library, Harry had a small shock as the vision of Neville talking casually to his mother, Lily Potter, startled him. He felt he was never going to get used to seeing her moving and talking as if she was still around. The thought left him with a searing pain in his chest.

Neville, who just noticed Harry walk in, jumped up to attention as Dobby was right on Harry's heal. "Harry, I am truly sorry, if I would have known how much helping me would hurt you, I would have never asked you to do that." But before Neville could get any further, Harry raised his hand to silence him as he began to speak.

"Neville, please stop apologizing, I knew it would tire me out, but that's all, normally all it would take is a little time, a couple of hours maybe, to regain my strength, a small price to pay to completely unbind your magical core, wouldn't you agree?"

"I would but wait, Normally? Are you feeling better now?" as Harry shook his head that he was feeling fine to Neville's questioning looks, Neville understood that Harry would explain later. Neville was going to say something again before Dobby stepped around Harry and addressed the Longbottom heir. "Lord Longbottom, I am fiercely sorry for threatening you, I sincerely apologize for my behavior but I wish for you to know that I will not hesitate to do so again if I feel my Master is being in danger."

Neville simply smirked as he would expect no less from Harry's House Elf. From what little he knew of Dobby, the one thing he knew

for sure, was that no one and he meant no one, would get away with bad mouthing or threatening Harry Potter in his presence. He laughed internally at the thought of Dobby hexing the Queen of England herself if she were to say something hurtful in regards to Harry. Neville was beginning to see a pattern in regards to one Harry Potter. Everyone who got the chance to meet and become friends with Harry, whether they were House Elf's, Goblins, Wizards, or Animals, it didn't matter, they would choose to give their life to protect him and Neville was starting to become another one to throw his name in to that hat as well.

Harry who was beaming proudly at Dobby, was brought out of his musings by his mother as her voice floated in the air, snapping him back to reality. "Harry, as I was mentioning to Neville before you came in, Chewies Bubblegum Factory was Alice's favorite of the business' that she and Frank had owned. If Alice were to hide something important, it stands to reason that it would likely be there. But few really knew how much she loved that place. The workers at that factory were way more then just employees, they were like family, I don't know if it's like that anymore?" Lily said as she pondered what the factory was like now, years later.

Harry looked over to Neville and noticed the far away look he had on his face. " Nev are you ready for this, you know, we could do this at another time, were not even sure if we are going to find anything there?" Harry let the question linger before Neville seemed to snap out of it and replied to Harry.

" No, I will be okay, I want to do this, I have a feeling that the answers we seek are somehow connected to that Factory, especially after hearing your Mother talk about how much my Mother cared for that place. It's just too many coincidences for us not to find something there." as Harry nodded that he kind of agreed, all the clues were in someway pointing to that factory. Harry was hoping they find something there, because if they didn't, he wasn't sure where to go from there.

After Neville handed over the address to the Factory that he received from his parents financial records, he still wasn't sure how to get there. Harry figured the best way to get there was Dobby anyhow,

Harry handed over the parchment to Dobby, after he scanned it for a few seconds, he nodded as he stowed away the parchment. Harry assumed that he knew how to get there, as he turned to look at Neville. “All right, are you ready to go?” Harry let the question linger before turning to Dobby, “Dobby once we arrive, I want you to stay with us, I’m not sure what to expect and it would be better to have your magical power for back up, but I want you to be invisible, can you handle that?” Harry smiled as Dobby beamed up at him as he nodded that he understood.

Harry made one last check that he had everything he needed and then looked towards Neville, who took one deep breath, then exhaled as he nodded that he too was ready. Both boys looked over to Dobby who stepped between the two boys, just as Dobby was raising his hand, Harry heard Lily say “good luck boys, be careful.” as Dobby snapped his fingers as the trio disappeared.

Looking around as they arrived, Harry realized they were in a back alley of what looked like a row of huge buildings. Looking towards Dobby as Neville started to investigate further down the alley. “Harry, Chewies is the last building on the left, just over there.” Dobby finished as he pointed to the building just down the alley. Neville took the lead and Harry followed with Dobby on his heal. As they reached the double wide glass doors, Harry turned to tell Dobby that it was time to go incognito, but he was already gone. “Don’t worry Master, I will be by your side the entire time, if you need me, just call out.” Said an invisible Dobby as Harry smirked. Harry pulled open the door and followed Neville over to the countertop.

Looking around, Harry noticed that the building seemed to be split right down the middle, with small cubicle like offices on the right side, and huge machinery spread out all over the place down the left side. Harry assumed that the machinery was producing and packaging the bubblegum, and that the offices were staffed with people marketing and selling the product. The front office that they were in right now had an overhead view of the entire Factory floor. As they were waiting for the secretary to return, Neville pointed out that at the end of the Factory, there was two double doors that he guessed lead to Merlin only knows where.

Harry turned behind him and whispered, "Dobby, head down to the far end of the factory and investigate what is behind those double doors. Don't worry about us, but make it quick, and don't touch anything, just take a quick look around and see how many people are back there." Dobby replied, "Yes Master" just as the secretary returned with a rather large man in a dark grey business suit. He must have weighed at least three hundred pounds Harry thought to himself as Neville took the lead.

"What can I help you young gentleman with? My names Calvin Bixby, I am the Head Honcho so to speak at this Factory, let me guess, you gentleman heard about our amazing bubblegum and want to sell it in your stores. Well let me tell you, we don't just let anyone sell our amazing product, why should I allow you boys to sell Chewies Bubblegum?" The rather large man finished with a questioning look.

Neville just smiled as he looked over to Harry who simply shrugged as if to say, your call mate. Neville wasn't sure how he should proceed, he was thinking of going along with the story that was already laid out for them as shop owners but that wouldn't get them to fully investigate the place the way they wanted. Making up his mind, Neville threw himself fully into it as Harry smirked at his one time shy friend, Hogwarts look out, here comes Neville Longbottom Harry Thought.

"So Let me get this straight, you don't sell your product to everyone that wants to sell it, can I ask you why that is, because to me, that sounds like bad business." Neville finished confidently. Mister Bixby was taken back by Neville's comment, so much in fact that he backed up a few steps as he began sputtering incoherently for several seconds to the snickers of not only Harry but his own secretary as well.

After composing himself enough to get his words out so they were at least understandable, Mister Bixby's face started to get redder and redder, so much so that Harry was having Vernon Dursley flashbacks. Harry decided to help the big guy out a little by jumping in here and clarifying a little bit. "I think we got off on the wrong foot, Mister Bixby, I would like to introduce you to Lord Longbottom, does that name ring a bell to you?" Harry asked as the Secretary gasped and covered her

mouth with her hand. Mister Bixby calmed down visibly as well as taking a few more steps back in silent shock.

Harry smirked at the scene that played out in front of him. The Chewies Employees were completely flustered and Neville was confidently smirking at the Head Honcho as Mister Bixby put it. Gathering his thoughts, Mister Bixby finally found his voice, "Mister...Lord Longbottom...my apologizes....I....well....we were never informed....I mean.." but thankfully Neville rescued the bumbling idiot from putting his foot further into his mouth.

"Relax Mister Bixby, I am not here to drill you or to make your life miserable, at least not today that is. Today I am only here to tour this factory with my associate here. I am not sure how long we will stay today, but after we are shown the Factory floor, offices, and employees, my partner and I will discuss the futures of the staff at this factory, that is if you still have one." Neville finished completely stone faced. Harry had to hand it to him, he played the part perfectly, so much in fact that Harry was starting to fear for the poor guys health for it looked like he was about to have a heart attack.

"Of course Lord Longbottom, please follow me and I will show you the factory floor." said Mister Bixby as he lead the way out of the lobby entrance and down the spiraling staircase that opened up to the main floor below. As they reached the bottom, Neville and Harry noticed the Secretary take off towards the offices, no doubt warning all the employees of their surprised guest. After watching her disappear around the corner, Neville turned to Mister Bixby and informed him that his partner, (Harry) was going to mingle around and check things out on his own. Bixby simply nodded that he understood as he walked a little further giving Harry and Neville a quick moment to discuss their plan.

"Make your way to the back and check things out as best you can, I will have Bixby take me back there in fifteen minutes exactly." said Neville as Harry nodded. "Scan the entire place and everyone you meet along the way very carefully, later we can re-examine it in detail in my pensieve, ohh and by the way, be careful and if you feel like your in danger, call for Dobby, okay?" replied Harry and Neville nodded as he smiled, catching up to Bixby as he thought to himself, " reviewing

in the pensive, what a brilliant idea, I guess that's why he is the Chosen One."

Harry went to the right, along the long hallway that had various cubicles of offices that spread out everywhere. Not stopping and talking to anyone as he tried to get to the private offices as fast as he could, after all, he only had fifteen minutes to investigate before Neville returned. As he made his way down the hallway, Harry noticed the frantic and rushed faces that were watching him pass with fear in their eyes. Finally making it to the rear of the factory, Harry took one look around before opening the door and walking through.

After closing the door behind him, Harry started to stealthily walk forward before realizing that he actually had permission to check the place out. Shaking his head at his stupidity, Harry took another step forward before Dobby appeared right in front of him.

"Harry, I have checked in every room back here and I have located your Godmother's personal office, and it is just like the portrait of your Mother said it would be, completely sealed off, even I could not get through that sealed door. I think your Mother was correct, Only Neville can open that door." Finished Dobby as Harry nodded before he walked a little further and checked out the offices that he could with Dobby explaining what he found. They explored what looked to be Mister Bixby's office and several other offices, not finding anything of importance. Glancing down at his watch, Harry had about three minutes left before Neville brought Bixby back here. Harry told Dobby to hang out by the sealed door and wait for him and Neville to return before heading back towards the way he entered and exiting the private offices.

Lingering by the offices near the rear of the factory, Harry waited for Neville to show. Looking down at his watch, Harry smirked when the time was up and Harry looked up and saw Mister Bixby with Neville right on his heals.

"Well like I said Lord Longbottom, this is where your office and my office is located, as well as the other Managers the only thing is...." Mister Bixby got rather nervous about this like he wanted to say something but didn't want to sound crazy. Harry picked up on what it

could be right away and for the second time decided to save this guy the stress.

“Let me guess, the door has sealed itself and no one has ever been able to open it, no matter what they tried.” Harry suggested with a small smirk. Mister Bixby was slightly shocked but nodded his head that Harry was correct. Neville picked up on it right away and realized that this must be his Mother’s private office that Lily was talking about.

“Not to worry Mister Bixby, that is an old family secret to keep those private business matters....private so to speak. This is partly the reason for my visit today, the other part is to evaluate your teams performance as well as their productivity. I want you to return to the general offices and gather your team in the main conference room you showed me earlier in lets say twenty minutes, that will give my associate and I enough time to share information and come to a decision.” Finished Neville sternly as Mister Bixby nodded and vacated the private offices to gather his team.

“Bloody brilliant Nev! I’m telling you....you have been in rare form today” said a slightly chuckling Harry before continuing, “you know what the funny thing is? You actually are the big hancho, Mister big time Lord Longbottom!!” Harry teased.

“Shut it Harry” said a slightly smirking Neville as he made his way over to the sealed door just as Dobby made himself seen. “So ummm what is it that I’m supposed to do to open this door?” asked Neville

“Lord Longbottom, just place your hand on the door knob and wait for the door to open itself, that’s all it should take to unseal the door.” said Dobby as Neville complied.

Suddenly the door glowed slight gold before several clicking noises were heard and the door swung open slowly. Harry, Neville and Dobby walked in and closed the door right away. The office was rather large as Harry and Dobby slowly walked around looking here and there. Harry wanted to give Neville some time to be first to explore as much as he could, if this was his Mother’s personal office, he would want to be the first one to so as well. Unfortunately they were on a short timeline.

After Neville did an initial sweep of the office, Harry and Dobby joined in and ransacked the office without making too much of a mess. After about fifteen minutes of serious searching, they come up with nothing. They even tried placing their hands together on every object in the office, still turned up empty. Both boys were seriously disappointed, Harry was sure this was where it would be, with the way the room was sealed and everything. Neville walked around and leaned against the desk next to Harry.

“ I don’t know Harry, I really thought that the prophecy was going to be hidden here. But it looks like we were wrong.” said Neville dejectedly.

“No Neville, I refuse to believe that, I think it’s here, but maybe hiding it away in her personal office would be to obvious. I have a gut feeling that the answer we seek, is in this factory somewhere.” said Harry assuredly.

“Yeah...maybe your right...about her office being too obvious of a hiding spot but what are we to do, go around placing both of our hands on everything in this factory?”

“Well, that’s one option” said Harry as Neville chuckled before he continued. “No actually I think the best thing to do, is go back out there and reassure everyone that their jobs are safe for the time being and that we will be around over the next couple of months with some slight business changes we will be implementing. Then after we review everything from today in the pensive, we can return and explore the factory, section by section.”

Neville nodded before saying, “I think that’s as good a plan as any Harry, well no sense making those poor employees wait any longer, lets get out there and shake things up a little.” Harry nodded as he watched Neville stand and walk out the office, stopping just outside. As Harry and Dobby followed, Neville closed the door, as he did, that slight gold glow surrounded the door again as several clicks signaled the door resealed itself as the glow faded. Harry asked Dobby to stay with them and to check closely to every employee in the conference

room, just in case. Dobby understood and went invisible again as Harry followed Neville to the meeting.

Chapter 12 -- Not Your Ordinary Trunk

The wonderful aroma of bacon, sausages, and hash browns slowly seeped into Harry's dreams until he was blinking away the last seconds of sleep as he sat up and reached over to the night stand, snatching off his glasses and putting them on. Looking around to gather his bearings, Harry realized where he was, he was at Harrington Palace. Ohh how he was beginning to love this place, smirking to himself at the thought of loving Privet Drive, he made his way over to the breakfast table. Digging in, Harry pondered what he had in store for today. Neville was coming over to review their memories from the Factory in his Pensieve and then Harry was going to show Neville his dueling room, first hand. A little smile came to his face at that thought, we will soon see how strong Neville's magical core has become since becoming unbidden.

As Harry finished an amazing breakfast, Winky appeared and cleared the table before speaking. "Morning Harry, how was your breakfast? Good I hope." asked Winky as she slightly blushed.

"It was amazing Winky, thank you. Neville is coming by in a little bit, we will be spending most of the day in the dueling room, if you could make some sandwiches' and Butterbeers for us to snack on at lunch time." declared Harry as he made his way over to his luxurious bathroom suite to get cleaned up.

"Of course Harry, just call out when you two are ready for them." Replied Winky as she silently disappeared. After a lovely half hour in the bathroom suite, Harry walked out and into his walk in closet/lounge area. Walking over towards his clothes, he was slightly in awe as to how much clothes he now owned. Finally picking out a sweet work out like suit that was extremely comfortable and easy to move in. He read the label, Adiddas, hmm he decided he liked Adiddas. As he was checking himself out in the full length mirror as Dobby silently popped in just behind him that slightly startled Harry, but he tried to hide it.

"Dobby, where did I get all these clothes?" Asked Harry as he motioned towards the stacks and racks of clothes that now filled his onetime empty closet.

“Winky has been ordering you a variety of styles, ever since we got your official measurements, I hope that is okay with you Harry?” asked Dobby as Harry just smiled back at him. Figuring he would give Harry some good news to distract him from all the clothes that he now owned, something that Dobby and Winky thought he desperately needed, Dobby smirked before continuing. “I do have some good news to tell you Master.”

“Oh really, and what could be better then having all of this.” asked Harry as he waved all around his closet, as he looked around he noticed all the shrunken packages that were at one time stacked around were not there anymore. Smiling as he just figured out what Dobby’s good news was, Harry decided to have a little fun with his little friend.

“I hope your not thinking of my two new school trunks that you picked up this morning. Because to be honest with you, that sounds to me like a lot of work ahead of me. All the organizing of all those books into the library. Storing all those potion ingredients into the potions stores. Planting all those plants and seedlings into the Herbology room and setting up the infirmary. Like I said, work, work, work!” Finished Harry with a fake defeated look on his face as he watched Dobby’s expression shyly out the corner of his eyes.

Dobby looked at the ground bashfully as he was trying to think of something else he could say that would cheer Harry up, but he couldn’t think of anything. Harry watched while holding in his laughter until he couldn’t any longer and he started busting up laughing out loud as Dobby looked on bewildered.

After the laughter passed, Harry said, “I’m sorry Dobby, that was just to good to pass, I was only playing. I am ecstatic that the Trunks are finished. So, how did they turn out, have you checked each compartment?”

Dobby visibly relaxed as he pulled out two small credit card like boxes and handed them over to Harry as he described how to open them. “Just place your thumb on the corner there, and say enlarge,

you will then have five seconds to place it on a solid surface before it resizes.” declared Dobby.

Harry did as he was instructed and set the two credit card size boxes on the ground and watched as the two trunks enlarged right before his very eyes. They were beautiful, exquisite black leather with gold bindings with a very ornate looking crest stitched in to the front of each trunk, upon closer inspection, Harry realized that it was the Potter family crest. He had only seen pictures of it on his Gringotts documents but never like this, it was perfect.

Walking over to the first one he opened the lid and peered inside, it looked ordinary, just like any other trunk. Dobby walked over and showed Harry that just under the lip of the lid, were seven little black buttons. After telling Harry which button did what, Harry pushed the first button and watched as the front part of the trunk opened right down the middle all the way down to the floor. Peering down he witnessed the little stairs and walked down inside it.

At the bottom of the stairs was a large black door with the Potter family crest in bright gold embroidery. Reaching for the handle to open the door, as his hand grabbed the door knob, it glowed bright gold for a second as a little clicking noise was heard before the door swung open revealing a huge potions lab.

Walking into the lab slowly, Harry took stock of the entire room. Once he cleared the door, it closed itself and Harry noticed something hanging on the wall where the opened door was blocking. Walking closer he realized this was the monitoring system that Mister Whitehead was referring to, it was absolutely brilliant. There was a little screen that showed what was going on outside the trunk, he could see Dobby still standing there, not sure if he should follow down into the trunk. Harry also realized he could hear what was being said outside as well, he wondered if Dobby could hear him, he called out “Dobby?”

Silently Dobby appeared right next to him inside the trunk, “Yes Harry, what is it?” Dobby replied.

"I was wondering if you could hear me outside of the trunk?" said Harry as Dobby was shaking his head that he could.

"Yes Master, I can hear you summon me from almost anywhere, even behind very protective warding." Dobby beamed with pride as he straightened himself up.

"That wasn't what I was talking about. I was referring to you actually hearing me speak out loud." Finished Harry as he motioned towards the little surveillance area near the front door. Dobby looked confused for a second before it finally dawned on him as to what Harry was asking.

"Oh, I understand...I am sorry Master" said Dobby as he made his way over to the little screen area before continuing. "Yes you can transmit audio to the outside of the trunk by pressing this button hear while talking, you must hold down the button until you have finished talking." Dobby declared while demonstrating.

After Dobby's little demonstration, Harry was extremely pleased with his purchases from Mister Whitehead, even though they cost him a small fortune, he was sure they were worth every Gallon. If all the compartments were like this one, he was going to get so much envy for having this trunk, let alone two of them. As he pondered that thought, he wondered what Hermione would say if she could see this trunk, and for that matter, what would Ron say? Those thoughts sent a small pang to his chest, he really did miss his two best friends, or at least his former best friends. But the way things were shaping out, it looked like He and Neville were fast becoming best friends. He smiled at that thought as he explored the potions lab further.

He noticed The counter tops were of the finest Marble as he ran his hands over the counter tops. He let out a small whistle as he realized he had enough space to brew up to twelve caldron's at one time in here. Mister Whitehead has definitely outdone himself. Looking towards the back of the room, Harry noticed several cabinets for storing different size caldron's and supplies.

This was one of the best potions lab he had ever seen, way better then anything Hogwarts had to offer. Just think about what I could

brew in here privately without anyone disturbing me. Polly Juice, Felix Felicis, Healing potions, and just about anything he wanted. Of course he would have to learn how to make some of those more advanced potions, but having the ability to brew twelve different potions at once, and not having to sneak around the castle and hope no one came across his cauldron hiding in Myrtle's Bathroom stall was bloody brilliant!

As he made his way to the door with Dobby right behind him, he noticed several small wrapped boxes stashed in the corner of the room. Dobby who seemed to understand Harry's question before he actually expressed it, said "Those are some of the supplies for this room that Winky and I have gathered already, we were not sure how you wanted to organize the rooms, so we left the packages in the corner of each room. We will of course gladly put those items away to your liking once you tell us what you want."

Harry smiled as they made their way to the door and Harry took a quick glance at the monitor that showed outside the trunk before opening the door and walking out to the hallway that lead to the stairs. "Dobby that is quite all right, I will take pleasure in organizing and storing away everything in each room, that way I will know where everything is. Although I would of course appreciate some help." Harry finished as he noticed Dobby's grin spread across his face.

As they got to the bottom of the stairs, Harry was about to make his way back up the stairs when he noticed on the wall right at the base, was the seven black buttons that were under the lid on the outside of the trunk. Turning to face Dobby with a smile, Harry pushed the second button and heard a faint click and as he looked down the hall, he noticed the door had changed. Where their once was the black door with the Potter crest etched in gold, now stood a green door with the same Potter crest etched in gold.

Harry quickly walked down the hallway and reached for the handle to the green door and opened it quickly. He felt so excited at exploring everyone of these amazing compartments, why hadn't he bought something like this years ago. He couldn't quite explain this feeling that was coming over him as he walked into the most amazing Herbology room he had ever entered. He was starting to understand

what his other dorm mates were feeling on Christmas, that giddy feeling that was welling up in the pit of his stomach. He couldn't wipe the smile off his face no matter how hard he tried, especially as he thought about what Neville would say when he had one of his very own of these immaculate trunks.

Walking around he noticed there were four small greenhouses, each had a temperature control just to the right of each door with the temperature number in bright gold numbers that floated above each greenhouse. Along the walls were equipment ranging from shovels to pots and everything in between.

Thinking things couldn't get much better then this, Harry pulled open the first greenhouse and walked in. The greenhouse was at least ten times larger on the inside as was on the outside. Staring at rows and rows of various plants all lined up beautifully, if all four of the greenhouses were as large as this one, Harry couldn't possibly think of what to do with all that space. "I will definitely need Neville to see this compartment right away." Suddenly Harry was thinking he had loads to do, lists of things he wanted to get done today. He didn't have the time to walk around this huge compartment and evaluate each greenhouse. Stepping out of GH1 what Harry dubbed would be what he was going to call each room, it was easier that way he thought as he left the compartment, closing the green door and walking down the hallway. Just as he reached the base of the stairs he glanced down at his watch as he took a step and froze, Dobby walking right into him as he stuttered his apologies, Harry was still staring at his watch.

"Dobby, we have been in this trunk for at least fifteen to twenty minutes, but my watch isn't moving, how long have we been in here?" Harry asked as Dobby smiled.

"You are correct Sir, time is different in here, every hour you are in the trunk is equal to one minute outside the trunk." said Dobby with a grin as he stared at Harry's expression change from that of bewilderment to that of childish little boy as he took the stairs at a run jumping out at the last stair landing square into his closet and screamed, "Yeah!"

Dobby just laughed as he popped from where he was watching Harry to inside his closet near the exit door where he continued to watch his Master dance around like a little girl before he froze again and looked right at him with a confused look he asked.

“Dobby, why do these trunks have a time delay function like this, I mean it’s ruddy brilliant, don’t get me wrong, but this is a very expensive option. And come to think of it, that Herbology Room was rather extensive, and the Potions lab was bigger then I requested as well?” Looking much more stern, he asked again to Dobby, “Dobby, why is this trunk better then I requested and worse yet paid for? **WAIT A MINUTE! THE POTTER CREST!**”

“ I didn’t even think about before, How Dobby? What happened?” Harry was beginning to panic a little bit, his cover was blown and now he was thinking of how the compartments could be monitored or spelled against, his mind was going a hundred miles an hour as he paced around his closet. Suddenly, a small red light appeared out of seemingly nowhere and started flashing as a small siren went off that sounded like Uncle Vernon’s car alarm. Suddenly a side panel in the wall opened and a huge TV screen was showing an intersection of Privet Drive and Spinner Street. Covering his ears he looked to Dobby who had huge bug eyes and was slightly dazed.

“Dobby, please shut off that noise” Harry hollered above the siren as Dobby rushed to the TV Screen and hit a small button and the flashing light and siren disappeared. He turned to face Harry with a sad expression.

“I’m sorry Master, I hadn’t had time to show you the monitoring system I set up with the help of Whiplock at Gringotts.” Dobby said as he motioned towards the monitors. Harry looked closer as he noticed two people standing just off the side of Spinner street wearing dark colored robes that were pulled up over their faces. One of the two, pulled a wand and cast something, he touched the other and then himself as the two slowly fizzled out of sight, “Disillusionment Charm this is interesting.” Harry thought.

"That's quite all right Dobby, I understand. Everything seems so mixed up right now, so much for that boring summer huh?" Harry finished as he turned and walked over to the lounge area and took a seat, keeping his eye on the huge screen that changed to inferred and showed the two intruders in a shimmering orange color as they crossed the street onto Privet Drive but the opposite side of where Number 4 is.

The small monitors showed different areas all surrounding Number 4 and the largest screen showed the perpetrators as they walked and it switched automatically to the camera angle that best viewed the unwanted guests. Harry turned to Dobby and said, "please explain the trunk thing to me Dobby?"

Dobby who slightly fidgeted, looking extremely nervous before he silently popped away, leaving a bewildered Harry sitting there until moments later He silently reappeared holding a small brown package.

"Here Master, this is from Mister Whitehead and should explain everything." Dobby declared as Harry took the package and set it on the seat next to him as he refocused on the monitors that were tracking his guests.

"How does this system work Dobby, please explain it to me." Harry asked as he begun to get curious as to his options that were available to him.

"Of course, Master, well First off, it monitors any magical disturbance in a four block range surrounding Privet Drive on all four sides. Getting extremely detailed all down Privet Drive itself. The wards surrounding Number 4 are extensive. The closest anyone can Apparate nearest here is that intersection at Spinner street. Only Albus and you can actually Apparate on Privet Drive itself, that's why it is important to monitor the surrounding neighborhood. There are also timed and trigger wards placed all down Privet Drive as well as all over your front and back yard."

"Timed and trigger wards?" asked Harry a little perplexed.

“Yes, those are specialty wards that only activate when a certain phrase is uttered or a specific action sets it off.” pulling out a small remote from the side of the largest screen, Dobby handed it over to Harry as he continued explaining.

“ This remote will control most of those, the directions and locations of each is located on the back, you can also press this button here called grid and it will materialize in front of you, it’s quite impressive. I think it was Whiplock’s way of apologizing for the Gringotts disaster.” said Dobby as Harry pressed the Grid button in amazement as the Hologram visualized in front of him with cretin trip wards and security functions, all in all it was bloody brilliant!!

“Wow Dobby, you are correct, this is amazing, do you have any idea how many Death Eaters I could capture if they tried and attack on Privet Drive with this.” Harry started laughing hysterically at the thought of him single handedly turning in over a hundred Death Eaters without even leaving his closet.

After several minutes of vivacious laughter, Harry settled down and leaned back and put his feet up as he asked Winky for some chilled pumpkin juice out loud and it silently appeared on the little coffee table without him even seeing Winky, He shouted out, “Thank You Winky!” as he focused again on the monitors as Dobby came over and sat next to him. As Harry took a sip of his pumpkin juice, he instantly spit it out as he noticed the monitor change to show a slightly awkward Neville appear just off Privet Drive as he looked around he straightened himself out and began his short walk up Privet Drive.

“Oh No, Neville!!,” Harry grabbed his invisibility cloak and pulled it over himself as he pulled his wand he yelled out, “Dobby take me directly behind Neville but do not make yourself be seen.”

Dobby replied, “Yes Master” and with a snap it was done. Harry appeared just like he hoped, right behind Neville. He quietly whispered, “Hey Nev, don’t panic, it’s Harry, there are unknown wizards monitoring my house, I’m here to guide you in to my place safely, I don’t know their intentions. Whistle if you understand.” Harry asked as he heard Neville whistle, Harry grabbed his side and rushed him

around to the back of Number 4 and into the house very quickly. They made it up to his room as Dobby sealed it off and Harry made a bee line to his closet with Neville slowly on his heals as he looked around Harry's room. Once Harry sat down and looked over at Nev, he noticed Neville looked slightly upset.

"What's wrong Nev? I'm sorry if I scared you or what not but I justed wanted you to make it safely." Harry reassured him

"Ohh it's not that, I guess I was kinda hoping you would have some gorgeous girls in here so I could finally meet them. Neville declared as Harry started laughing again.

"Don't worry Nev, you will get the chance, I promise you, in fact Jennifer has been asking about you." As Neville looked on completely surprised by that, Harry continued, "You know, the Longbottom family is very well known in the wizarding community, I wouldn't be surprised if you were Wizards Weakley Bachelor of the week, well....maybe number two, after me of course." Harry finished as he puffed out his chest before both boys busted up laughing.

After calming down, Neville looked at the amazing surveillance system as he let out a low whistle. "Some set up here Harry, quite amazing actually. This is way better then my Gran's" Neville finished as Harry zoomed in on the two unwanted guests as he played with his remote until he had audio to their conversation.

"That was Neville, I'm sure of it! What is he doing here?" said the first visitor before the second one spoke.

"I don't know, but we have our orders, were to stand guard an keep track of all visitors and follow Harry if he leaves the house."

Harry looked over to Neville as they both had the same idea, "I know those voices, that's Ron and Hermione!" Harry said as Neville just nodded his head that he agreed.

"What orders could they be talking about? Surely not Dumbledore's, I mean, after all, he is still in the private ward in St. Mungos." finished Neville as Harry pondered who they could be taking orders from.

"Well I suppose they could be working for the Order, but without telling me? This is just what I was talking about Nev, how long have they been spying on me? I wonder if they have done this every summer since I started at Hogwarts?"

Neville simply shrugged as he chose his next words carefully, he knew this was bothering Harry more then he was letting on. The one thing Harry and Neville had in common, was their hatred at being betrayed, and that's what Harry felt this was, a betrayal.

"I don't know Harry but you have my word, that I would never betray you, even under torture, I would gladly give my life before ever committing such a crime." Neville finished with a deadly resolve.

Harry paused to look Neville in the eye before a little grin came across his face. "Thanks Nev, that means more to me then you know. I also pledge to never betray you and I will do my very best to ensure your safety in the fields of battle. After all, what would winning the war be like if I didn't have my blood brother with me to celebrate?" Harry asked with a little smile as Neville looked at him before smiling as well. The two met with a firm handshake as Harry sat back down, almost sitting on the small brown package. Setting the package on his lap he almost forgot about it. Neville turned his attention to the TV Screen as Harry opened the package noticing what looked like a small bracelet and a note. Picking up the note he began to read.

Dear Mister Potter

Please forgive me for being so forward, but when my wife and I began finishing your order, we began setting the security wards to match your DNA, it was at that moment we realized that Lord Harrington was actually Lord Potter. Please relax, first off, your secret is completely safe with us, in fact we have made a trunk for your Father years ago. My wife and I understand and appreciate the long and hard path that lies in front of you and we understand the need for having such a trunk, it is with this thought in mind that we took it upon ourselves as the finest trunk makers in all of England, to make our finest pair of trunks we have ever created.

For we could think of no other in such a need or as worthy of one other then yourself Mister Potter. I hope you appreciate the changes and additions we have contributed to your trunks. I would list them all here, but alas I would run out of ink. But let me explain some of the finer additions, I will of course let you discover the others as you explore your new trunks. First, there is a very unique time delay function on both of your trunks. This is one of my favorite functions for as you will soon discover, you can quite easily spend hours and hours inside your trunk, this of course would make that time more like minutes and minutes. Quite handy when you need that little extra time to get your homework done or extra dueling practice or even a little break in your lovely Jacuzzi.

Harry thought “Jacuzzi? I will definitely need to explore those trunks a little better.” before he continued reading.

Secondly, we expanded each room to as large as we could possibly construct. We figured this would be a great advantage for you when you are in need of creating a mass storage of supplies and essentials that will be needed along the path to your quest. Third, the security features we included in both your trunks are nothing short of miraculous. The security system, complete with monitoring and warding was the combined work of over eight professionals, the best of the best in security warding in the entire wizarding world.

Rest assured I would pledge my life for any one of the eight, an when told of who the trunk was for, all agreed to do such amazing work, rearranging their busy schedules to work simultaneously on your trunk, all free of charge. Make no mistake Mister Potter, you are not alone and we are proud to say that when push comes to shove, we did our part to make sure our savior was as prepared as he could be to save us all. Because we know you can and will save us Harry.

Lastly, please take this bracelet as a gift from my wife and I, it is charmed to hold up to five shrunken trunks and makes them completely invisible along with the bracelet. Once activated, it will also be undetectable to any inspections, even at Gringotts, and that is saying something, my wife's most finest work to date. This of course could come in very handy if you were ever captured, once alone you

can enter your trunk and flee to safety via the special floo connection, or rearm your self and plan for battle. Which of course reminds me, the floo that only worked between trunks is now a full fledged untraceable floo connection, of course it is mostly one way but you and you alone can travel into the trunk that way completely untraceable, did I say that already?

Finally we wish nothing but the best for you Mister Potter, I understand that as your numbers grow of your closest comrades, you will want more and more of these types of trunks. I want you to know that my wife and I are at your beckon call and pledge here and now that we will do as you request in the name of the light but please note, that we could never make another trunk as extensive as yours, those two Potter trunks are one of a kind, or two of a kind I suppose. Please understand the amount of magic spent making those was all we could give, but of course we could make others the way you initially requested in a more realistic time frame of lets say three weeks. We look forward to our next meeting as well as your business, good luck Mister Potter, we know you will succeed.

Long Live the Chosen One, Harry Potter!

In your service,

Always

Mr. & Mrs. Whitehead

Harry clutched the letter to his chest as he leaked out a few tears as he tried to compose himself. He was so used to getting nothing but negativity from the general public that he never knew there were people that felt the opposite, and here was proof that he was fighting for something, for someone other then himself. He vowed that he would bring down Voldemort if it's the last thing I do. He slowly started to chuckle at that thought, "it just might be the last thing I do," he thought as he shook his mind clear of that thought before calling out, "Dobby"

“Yes Master, what can I do for you?” asked the little Elf who silently popped in front of Harry and Neville, who was still staring at the monitor watching a disillusioned Ron and Hermione.

“I want you to sit and watch our little snoopers, come and notify me if they step one toe on Number 4’s property or if anyone else joins them. Also I want you to pay attention to everything that is said between them, I will be taking Mister Longbottom here on a little tour of my new amazing trunk. Did you know about this Dobby?” asked Harry as he waved Mister Whitehead’s note around.

“I did sir, but only after they realized your true identity, I was planning on Obliviating them but they talked me into doing otherwise.” Said a bashful Dobby.

Harry simply hugged the little Elf before jumping from his seat and calling Neville to follow him. “I am so glad you didn’t Dobby, you have an excellent judge of character.” Harry called out as he made his way to the trunks. Harry heard Dobby call out softly as he waited for Nev to catch up.

“Of course I do, I chose to hang around you didn’t I?” said a smiling Dobby as Harry just laughed. As Neville caught up he looked at the two amazing looking Trunks and let out a small whistle. “Wow Harry, those are the infamous trunks huh?” said Neville as Harry simply nodded.

“These are way better then I could ever describe with words, wait till you see, follow me.” Said Harry as opened the lid and pushed the second button to open the Herbology room and watched Neville’s expression as the front opened up and revealed the stairs.

“Wow Harry, you were right, words just couldn’t do this trunk justice.” Harry laughed for Neville hadn’t seen anything yet as Harry strapped on the trunk bracelet and put Mister Whitehead’s letter in his pocket before walking down the stairs. When he got to the bottom, he realized Neville was not with him so he walked back up and spotted Neville about fifteen feet away on the other side of the closet, sitting on his bum rubbing the back of his head.

“Oh man Neville, I’m sorry, I completely forgot that you are not keyed in to enter yet.” said Harry as he rushed over to help Neville stand up.

“That’s okay Harry, that trunk packs one hell of a punch!” said Neville with a slight smile. After keying Neville to the trunks wards, permanently, Harry and Neville disappeared down in the trunk. Several minutes later they came stomping out both holding several pieces of parchment with lists and to do’s to add to Harry’s already growing list. Neville looked down at his watch and smiled.

“You were right Harry, we have only been down there for about five minutes, unbelievable! Imagine all we could get done down there.” said Neville shaking his parchment.

Harry simply smiled as he shrunk both trunks and placed them in his bracelet slots. Pressing the red button on the middle of the bracelet, He and Neville watched as the entire bracelet, trunks and all, disappeared.

“Wicked” said both Harry and Neville at the same time as they both looked up and started laughing. Neville reached out and touched Harry’s arm where the bracelet once was and felt nothing but skin. Harry asked if he could feel it as Neville just shook his head that he couldn’t and both boys added another “Wicked” to more laughter.

Harry and Neville made their way back to the lounge area and sat down next to Dobby who had a small note pad out and a quick quotes quill recording everything Ron and Hermione were discussing. Reading over the transcripts out loud, Harry found something interesting and he read it aloud.

“Did you see Neville Apperate here, did you even know that he knew where Privet Drive was?” said Ron as Hermione added, “ Do you think Dumbledore knows that he can Apperate, I wonder if he has his license like we do?”

Harry turned to Neville who quickly explained. “My Gran got a special circumstance appeal for me years ago, and I got licensed then, it was easier with all my trips to St. Mungos.” finished Neville as he

suddenly found the ground very interesting before he added, "And yes, Dumbledore knows I'm licensed."

Harry simply nodded that he understood as he looked over the rest of the transcript finding nothing of real interest he excused Dobby with a ton of thanks and asked Winky if she could make Neville and him some sandwiches for all that work down in the trunk really worked up their appetites.

After eating, Harry got a brilliant idea and walked out of his closet right over to Hedwig's perch and gathered her up, petting her feathers as he walked back into the closet and took a seat next to Neville.

"What if I send a little note to Ron and watch Hedwig try to deliver it to him across the street, wouldn't that be hilarious!" asked Harry as Neville started to bust up that he completely agreed. Harry walked over and scribbled a little useless note to Ron that said that they needed to talk soon and tied it to Hedwig, come with me Neville, they already know you're here, just try and suppress your laughter until we are back inside.

As Neville nodded, Harry called out for Dobby. "Dobby, can this monitor system record for later viewing?" asked Harry as Neville just smiled that he sure hoped so. Dobby simply nodded that it could and grabbed the remote and hit the record button, as Harry and Neville made for the front porch with Hedwig still perched on Harry's shoulder. Before opening the front door, Harry addressed Hedwig.

"All right girl, I want you to deliver this to Ron, he is hiding out across the street, disillusioned but he doesn't know that we know that, so he will be very surprised by your delivery, he may even run or try to shoo you away, don't let him, keep nipping at him until he takes the note, then come right back home, okay girl? Be careful." Harry finished as he fluffed her chest feathers one last time as she purred and then hooted that she understood before Harry opened the door stepping out onto the porch with Neville right beside him.

Harry called out, "Have a good flight girl!" and watched her instead of heading up into the sky, she veered low and straight across the street. Harry and Neville tried their hardest to look bewildered at her flight

pattern before they could plainly hear Ron scolding the owl with words such as, "Get off, Go Away, and Help me Hermione!" before taking off down the street with Hedwig flapping away madly chasing after him hooting really loud the whole way. Harry stepped off the porch a little so he could witness the bizarre interaction before stating rather loudly to Neville.

"What was that Nev? I think that was Ron across the street Disillusioned, but why would he do that?" said Harry trying his hardest to keep a straight face.

"I dunno Harry, but I think I heard him say Hermione's name as well, but why would they be across your street spying on you, I mean if they were your friends, why not knock on the door and have a conversation with you or something to see how you are?" returned Neville, also trying to keep a straight face.

"I'm not sure Nev, but I know that was them, and I'm not happy, come on, we have a lot of work to do." Said Harry trying to sound upset and hurt as Neville made his way back inside and Harry closed the door. Harry and Neville ran back to Harry's room, shutting the door and running into the closet, shutting that door, before both of them ran over the sofa and collapsed in a fit of laughter.

"Classic!" said Neville as the laughter finally began to subside, still holding his sides as Dobby entered the Closet with Hedwig perched on his little shoulder. She flew over and landed on the back of the sofa as Harry was picking himself up off the ground, holding his sides and wiping away the tears from all the laughing.

"Man that was so awesome, thank you Hedwig, I think that is one of my best memories this summer, and that is saying something." Harry finished still wiping away his tears.

Neville stood up and picked up the parchment he wrote out down in Harry's trunk before turning to Harry and speaking.

"I have some supplies to pick up and a few chores to get to, and I think your right about those two girls from Chewies Bubblegum Factory, they defiantly looked like they knew something, I think we

should give it a week or so before we make another appearance and do some interrogating with those two. I will return around seven for dinner, will Krista and Jennifer be here by then?" Neville asked with a shy look of hope on his face.

"Yes I think they will, oh and Dobby has keyed you into Number 4's wards so you can Apperate into my closet but only in my closet here okay, and I agree, I think we should train and get the trunks in order this week and then stop by the Factory and do some more digging early next week." Harry declared as Neville simply nodded. " Oh and by the way Nev, you were pretty amazing earlier when we dueled, your power is almost fully restored." finished Harry as he beamed proudly at his blood Brother.

"Thanks Harry, maybe even one day I could be stronger then you." said an equally beaming Neville as Harry simply laughed as Neville joined in before Harry declared, "don't get too carried away there Nev." Harry said jokingly as he punched Neville in the shoulder before adding, "seriously Nev, I think you might already be there."

Neville's laughter suddenly ceased and he took a good look at Harry with water welling up in his eyes before he spoke. "Only because of your help Harry, because of you!"

Neville reached out a hand to shake Harry's but Harry enveloped him in a manly hug before letting go he broke the eerie silence by declaring; "I figured we should get that out of the way, because there's no way I'm hugging you later tonight when the girls are present, I wouldn't want them to think that I bat for the other team, so to speak, like you do."

"Hey!....you better not even joke like that when they are here Harry, or else you will feel just how powerful I have become first hand." Neville said as Harry's laughter slowly ceased as he raised his hands in a truce sort of way declaring over and over, "Just kidding Nev, just kidding, don't hurt me oh powerful one!" As he began to bust up laughing again and this time Neville joined in just as Dobby started pushing some buttons on the remote control. Suddenly the image of Ron running down the street with Hedwig flapping like crazy nipping

at his ears, was displayed on all seven monitors. Harry and Neville started laughing even harder and this time Dobby joined in.

Chapter 13 -- A New Bond

It had been several hours since Neville left Harrington Palace and Harry was busy storing and organizing everything in his wonderful trunks. Taking a glance at his watch, Harry couldn't help but smile as he realized that it had only been several minutes since Neville's departure. It would definitely take some time to get used to this time delay function. Harry had spent all this time in only one compartment, the potions lab, and he wasn't even half way done yet. Modeling his storage cabinets after Snape's, after all if the slimy git was anything, he was a competent potions master. Along the way of organizing all the ingredients, Harry was making another list of ingredients that he was either missing or was low on, He wanted to have the most comprehensive potions lab in all of England. Thinking about how his lab would look once finished, a little smile came across his face at how jealous Snape would be if he knew Harry had this lab.

Stepping back into his closet, Harry turned around and closed the lid then shrunk the trunk. After picking it up off the ground, he slipped into his trunk bracelet and watched it as it disappeared. Taking the smaller trunk out of the bracelet, he walked over to the far corner of his closet, just under where his suits were hanging, and placed it against the far wall where it was hidden well under his clothes, as long as it was shrunk. He thought this would be a good time to do a little field test. Leaving his closet, he walked over to the foot of his bed and re-opened his larger trunk and entered it. Pressing the last button, he watched as the door changed into an all gold door with the Potter crest in blazing white. Opening the door, he was blown away again.

The small four bedroom living quarters that he was expecting was not what he was actually looking at. This looked like a small mansion, in fact from where he was standing, it looked bigger than Malfoy mansion. Thinking he would take the time to explore this place further later, smirking to himself, he wondered how extravagant Mister Whitehead made this place, he made his way over to the huge walk in fireplace to see a small note hanging from the mantle. Picking it up, he read.

H.

Please Remember, when flooing in from a registered Floo, you are the ONLY one who can enter. Of course when flooing from another trunk, anyone you grant access too by keying them into the trunks wards will be granted access. That goes for anyone leaving the trunk to a registered floo connection as well. So if you and four friends wanted to leave this trunk and lets say go to the Leakey Calderon, that would be fine, but leaving the Leakey to return to this trunk, you would be fine but your friends would be in grave peril. With that being said, the name of this trunk is Harrington One and the smaller trunk is Harrington Two.

Best of luck again H. and don't be afraid to use this trunk for pleasure as well as business. Merlin knows if anyone deserves to let loose every once in a while, it's you!

Forever your servant

H.W.

Harry set the note down back on the mantle and he thanked Merlin for Mister Whiteheads generosity, he was going to be floating a lot of business his way, it's the least he could do for everything his family has done for him. Glancing at the mantle, Harry spotted a small pot, hoping it was floo powder, he wasn't disappointed as he scooped up a small handful and stepped into the fireplace. "Harrington Two" he clearly stated and was whisked off, stepping out in a smaller version of the mansion he was just in. A huge smile spread across his face as he spotted the similar gold door with white Potter crest on it and made his way over to it.

Just like he thought, as he got closer, he spotted the small monitor with the four small black buttons except there was a gold button that he didn't recall seeing in the larger trunk. Looking out at the monitor, he realized that his experiment was a success. Not only did he floo into this trunk, but he did it while the trunk was shrunken, thus leaving him an excellent hideout. While looking out the monitor, he pressed the gold button and watched the trunk rise, slightly squishing some of his suits. He couldn't wipe the stupid grin off his face no matter how

hard he tried as he pressed the gold button again and watched the trunk shrink again.

After flooing back to Harrington One, Harry stepped out his trunk, then re-shrunk it and placed it in his bracelet as he thought to himself, "man I am super lucky." He was tired after getting his potions lab in somewhat order he decided to take a little nap. Seeing how he just saved about five hours doing work in his trunk, he could waste a few hours sleeping to make up. Taking a running leap, he jumped on his huge master bed and set his glasses down on the nightstand and closed his eyes. Even as he slept, he still wore that stupid little smile, it was like it was permanently stuck to his face. The last thought that crossed his mind before entering the dream world was, "I love that Mister Whitehead"

Harry woke up several hours later to an alarm ringing, he sat up quickly, fumbling for his glasses as he jumped out of bed, wand at the ready thinking someone had triggered the wards surrounding Number 4, in actuality it was his cell phone that was ringing like crazy on the opposite side of his room. Realizing his mistake, he made his way over and answered the phone.

"Hello?.....oh hey Nev, what's up?" said Harry

"I am just leaving Mrs. Taylor's house, she is an old friend of my Gran's and she is an amazing Herboligist, she gave me tons of ideas to get started, I have GH1 and GH2 all mapped out and ready, I was going to stop by Diagon Alley and pick up everything we need, do you want to meet me there, it would be a lot easier carrying all these supplies back if you brought one of your cool new toys, if you know what I mean." Neville finished as Harry just laughed.

"Yeah, Nev...no problem, in fact I just made a rather extensive shopping list of potion ingredients that I need to pick up as well, lets say I'll meet you at Magical Menagerie in twenty minutes, look for Mister Harrington, if you know what I mean."

"Okay, but why there? Why not meet at the Leakey?" asked Neville

"Well mostly cuz it won't be as busy as the Leakey, and I need to buy some new perch's for Hedwig to go into my new toys." Harry answered as Neville agreed and both hung up their phones. Harry smirked as he spoke out loud to himself. "He's only had that cell phone for a couple of days and he already knows how to use it better then me."

After jumping in the shower and getting dressed in a nice pair of black slacks and a nice dress shirt, Harry took a look at himself in the mirror and was happy with what he saw.

After making sure he had everything he needed, he walked into the closet and enlarged his smaller trunk, pushing some of his suits down the rack a little so as not to squish them every time he resized his trunk. Before walking down he called out to Winky.

"Yes Master Harry, what can Winky be doing for you?" replied the little House Elf.

"I will be heading to Diagon Alley with Neville to pick up more supplies, we will both be heading back here in a few hours and we are expecting misses Krista and Jennifer to join us as well for dinner. Can you please have something prepared for us, say around seven thirty, that would be most excellent." asked Harry.

"Of course Master, as you wish, any requests?" asked the little Elf.

"Not at all Winky, anything that is made by you will be very delicious, so why don't you surprise us." Harry finished with a beaming smile as Winky blushed and stared at the ground as she simply nodded. Before she disappeared, Harry could have sworn he saw a little hint of a smile. Making his way down into the trunk, he shrunk it, then walked over towards the fireplace before changing his appearance to James Harrington and took one final look at himself before grabbing some floo powder and calling out, "The Leakey Calderon, Diagon Alley" before disappearing in the green flames.

Stepping out of the floo in the Leakey Calderon, Harry quickly took stock of his surrounding environment, not spotting any immediate

danger, he gave a quick nod to Tom the barman and made his way out back to the hidden entry way to Diagon Alley.

The Alley wasn't that busy tonight, mostly the older crowd, not many Hogwarts students milling around at this hour. Harry quickly made his way to Magical Menagerie and entered the store.

After a quick scan of the store, or at least from what he could see from the entrance, Harry couldn't see Neville anywhere yet, so he decided to take care of business. Making his way towards the owl sections, he was momentarily distracted by a few girls in the isle over who let out a small scream. Pulling his wand in a flash, Harry made his way to the opposite isle in lightning time. Expecting the worse, he was surprised to see three girls that must have been around the ages of twelve or so looking at him with horrified expressions. Stowing away his wand while looking past the girls with a confused look on his face, the three girls pushed past him, as they did they murmured, "first that ugly pitiful excuse of a pet, then that freak brandishing his wand at us, I mean really." finished the first girl just as the other girl spoke. "I don't understand why they even have those in here, who would be dumb enough to actually spend their gold on such a hideous creature."

As the girls turned and vanished down another isle, Harry looked over to where the girls had come from. Sitting there in a rather small glass tank, was a rather large black snake with slight gold coloring around the head that spiraled all the way down it's long body. Looking further down the isle, looking for this hideous creature that was previously mentioned, Harry was at a loss. I Mean surly those girls weren't talking about this snake, understandably, snakes are not considered fluffy cute little animals, but ugly, hideous, and pitiful excuse for a pet? Harry just couldn't see it. Shaking his head at how ignorant wizarding England has become, Harry wondered if this prejudice against an entire species had anything to do with that bastard Tom Riddle?

As Harry continued his walk towards the back of the store towards the owl accessories, those girls words kept floating to his forefront thoughts. By the time Harry reached his desired section he was literally fuming. How dare those little bitches, who were they to throw

judgment on a completely different species. For all they knew, that snake in it's culture and world could have been considered quite the specimen. Then it hit him, and hit him hard, like a brick in the face. How could he have been so stupid, he spoke parseltounge. If you were going to have a pet, what better then one you could actually converse with. Making up his mind right there on the spot, Harry turned on his heal, and made a bee line towards that glass tank.

As Harry got closer, he had a horrible thought, what if this snake didn't like Harry? What if he wanted nothing to do with him? All of a sudden Harry grew nervous, almost as if he was walking into an interview or something. As he approached cautiously, he took a glance around to see all who could hear him, I mean he didn't want Lord James Harrington to be known as a parselmouth. No one was around at the moment, Harry pulled his wand, then cast a wide range Muffliato, just in case anyone walked by while he was talking. At the notice of a spell being used, the snake coiled up towards the back of the small glass tank.

“ Ohh great, here we go again, if it isn't the girls screaming, it's the ruddy boys trying to harm me or scare me, when will the stupid people learn that they will never sell me and just set me free or put me out of my misery.” said the snake in a slightly outraged yet very annoyed tone of voice.

At hearing this proclamation, Harry let out a small chuckle as the Snake straightened up and looked Harry dead in the eyes.

“ Could it be? No, no, it just isn't possible.” the snake kept repeating over and over. Harry decided to intervene.

“ Excuse me, I couldn't help but overhear, if you would allow me, I would like to buy you. Wait that didn't sound right, what I meant was, I would like to take you away from this horrid place. I would consider it an honor if you wanted to hang around and become a friend, but if you don't like me or something, I will take you to wherever it is you want and let you free.” Harry finished somewhat bashfully. He hoped that all came out in parseltounge, he couldn't tell sometimes, after all it just sounded like English to him.

Harry looked up shyly waiting for a response, he looked the snake in the eyes as the snake finally spoke.

“How is this possible, there hasn’t been a human that can speak our language in centuries. I mean I heard rumors while on the hunt but those were all about the utmost of evil creatures, and I don’t sense that in you.” Finished the snake.

“Why thank you, and I am not, but I can answer all those questions for you, but it is an extremely rare gift and I am considered much the freak in my world as those stupid humans call you for having this ability, so If you wouldn’t mind, do you think we could get out of here and continue this conversation in private?”

The snake still looked absolutely bewildered, it didn’t know what to think, a human that can speak their language and was offering help to escape this dreadful place. Really, what was there to think about.

“I would be honored to get to know you, but I accept your offer for freedom if I find out your evil or something.” the snake reminded him as Harry chuckled before the snake talked again. “ my name is Alissa, and I can’t believe this is happening.” she finished.

Harry laughed even more, “Of course, a female, with that attitude, how could you not be. I do have a question though, are you a poisonous breed?” Harry asked.

“I am, but my bite wont kill unless I empty my venom sacks completely, which leaves me quite defenseless.” Alissa replied.

Harry nodded before adding, “I pledge my magic that I will never willfully harm you if you do the same, I would really hate to be bitten, if you know what I mean.” Harry declared embarrassedly.

Alissa simply nodded before she said, “You are a strange wizard but I agree to make said pledge. I would also hate to be bitten by you.” Harry chuckled again at hearing that, he had a feeling that they were going to get along just perfectly. As Harry looked around to see if he could spot an associate, he decided he should explain his actions

before he offended her and ruined their relationship before it ever got started.

“Alissa, I want you to understand that I am in no way ashamed of you and I will explain everything to you in private tonight, but some of the things you might hear me say to this ignorant associate is merely for image sake. I know that probably doesn’t make sense to you but I promise I will explain tonight.” Harry finished just as the associate spotted Harry waving his hand to signify that he needed assistance.

As the associate got closer, he heard Alissa say, “I understand, you will not offend me, just get me the hell out of here!” Harry started busting up suddenly as the associate looked at him like he was crazy or something.

“Can I help you with something sir?” asked the associate kind of rudely until he realized this young man was wearing Armani and just pulled out a Gringotts wallet, and they only give those out to the filthy rich. He thought quickly before speaking again.

“I’m sorry sir, I have been really swamped out here today, I didn’t mean to take it out on you. What can I help you with tonight?” said the associate in a much more pleasant tone.

Harry chuckled silently to himself as he thought, “what a suck up, it’s funny how quickly they change when they see a Gringotts wallet, I will have to thank Whiplock again for that.

“There are several things I need actually. I need two top of the line owl perch’s as well as your best self serve water and food bowls. I would also like to purchase this snake here and this list of supplies.” Harry finished as he handed over a small list of items he needed for his potions stores.

The associate looked over the list before speaking, “That wont be a problem sir, but did I hear that you wanted to buy this snake?”

“Yes, that’s right, Is there some kind of problem with that?” asked Harry with a curious tone.

"Well no...of course not...it's just...well... I mean, it's a rightful deadly snake and it hasn't allowed anyone to get close to her, I've had her for months with no prospected buyers whatsoever." said the associate.

"Then the way I see it, it looks like I'm doing you a favor by taking her off your hands. So enough with all this chit chat, I really don't have the time for it. Please place her in a box, I won't be needing a tank or any other container and might I make a suggestion?" asked Harry as the associate nodded as he cast Accio and a large brown box that soared to his feet as he opened the glass tank and levitated Alissa into the box before Harry continued.

"It seems to me that if you had this snake for as long as you have, maybe you shouldn't get anymore snakes to sell here, It doesn't give you any business and scares the regular customers and I'm sure the snakes don't like it either." Harry finished as he watched the associates expression change to actually ponder that thought.

"You know, I never really thought about it like that before. I think you might be right, I have only sold three snakes since I opened this shop and the other two were food for other animals." The associate handed Harry the box sealed with Alissa inside as he continued. "I will go complete your order and meet you over at that counter over there to square your payment."

"That will be most appreciative, please spare no expense on the two perch's, nothing but the best for my Familiar." Harry saw the grin on the associates face as he practically ran to finish his order. Harry chuckled to himself as he made his way over towards the counter the associate mentioned. On his way to said counter, he ran into Neville who looked slightly flustered.

"Hey Nev, what's wrong mate? You look a little frazzled." Harry asked as Neville sighed as he ran his hand through his hair.

"Oh nothing, just the Leaky was packed for some reason and it took forever to get here. Hey what's in the box?" Neville asked.

“Only my new Familiar, well that is if we get along well enough, I’ll explain later. I am almost finished up here and then we’ll hit The Golden Greenhouse and then I need to pick up a whole lot of stuff at the Apothecary.” Harry declared as Neville simply nodded as the Associate was making his way back to the counter.

“Here is everything you requested on your list in this bag and in this bag are your owl supplies.” declared the associate as he handed over the two large bags as Neville helped Harry by grabbing the two packages as Harry paid for everything, thanked the associate and picked up Alissa as he and Neville made for the exit.

Once they made it outside, Harry dragged Neville off to the side, right next to Florean Fortescue’s Ice Cream Parlour which was not very crowded at the moment. Harry pulled out his trunk, re-sized it then put it on the ground. Before he opened it he turned to Neville and said.

“Nev, Hang back a second, I am going to go down real quick and drop off these packages, I might be a minute or two, if you want, you could get some ice cream while you wait, my treat.”

“Nah, that’s okay Harry, take your time, I’m gonna go over my lists of supplies while I think of what to do for GH3.” Finished Neville as he pulled out some parchment and a quill and started scratching away. Harry simply chuckled as he opened the lid and press the last black button and entered the trunk.

When he got to the bottom of the stairs, he quickly made his way to the door and entered. After setting his packages down on one of the couches he set the box down and opened it up to let Alissa out.

Alissa slithered out and took a look around while stretching out completely before she turned and faced a smiling Harry.

“Ohh it feels so good to stretch, I can’t remember the last time I’ve been able to stretch like this.” said Alissa

Harry just chuckled as he finally got a good look to how big she actually was before speaking. “I am sorry Alissa, nobody deserves to

be cooped up and caged like that, are you hungry or anything?" Harry asked curious.

"No thank you, I ate yesterday, I should be good for a couple more days. I realized that you never said your name?" asked Alissa

"I know, that was because I didn't want to lie to you, I promise that I will explain everything tonight but I do have to finish running some more errands, feel free to explore the place and rest wherever you like. We will have a nice long discussion in a few hours or so okay? Oh and by the way, my name is Harry. See ya later." Harry finished as he made his way to the door.

"Okay, see you then Harry" called out Alissa as Harry left closing the door behind him.

After a minute in thought as she slithered around loving every minute of her newfound freedom, she came to a sudden conclusion, "His name was Harry, could it be?"

Stepping out of his trunk, Harry quickly closed the lid and re-shrunk his trunk and stowed it in his bracelet as he watched it disappear. A huge smile broke out across his face, no matter how many times he watched the bracelet disappear, he never got tired of it. Sitting across from Neville who was still busy scratching away.

"You ready to hit The Golden Greenhouse Nev?" Harry asked as Neville quickly stowed his parchment away and jumped up out of his seat. Harry smirked at the gleam in Neville's eye at the thought of a mini shopping spree in his favorite shop.

"Absolutely, I am. I haven't been this excited since Gran let me have my very own Greenhouse at Longbottom Manor. Thanks again for letting me plan all this out for you Harry, it's great practice for me for later in life, I never told anyone this but, one day I hope to replace Professor Sprout someday." Neville finished with a far away look in his eyes.

"Are you kidding me Nev, I should be thanking you, I am going to be learning so much from you, I would be completely lost here without

you. As for you taking over Professor Sprout's Teaching job, I cant think of anyone more qualified in this area then you Nev. You know, if I make it out of this war in one piece, I might try teaching Defense Against The Dark Arts, then not only will we be blood brothers but colleagues as well." Replied Harry with huge grin at that thought.

Neville laughed at that as the two made their way to Neville's little slice of heaven in Diagon Alley as he thought about Professor Potter and Professor Longbottom. "I like the thought of that." said Neville as the two strode down the Alley.

Several hours later, a very tired Harry and Neville popped into Harry's bedroom back at Harrington Palace, thanks to the assistance of one House Elf named Dobby. Harry was starting to feel a little tired from all the shopping but Neville was so in his element in The Golden Greenhouse, that he actually looked more energized then he did before they started shopping. As he watched Neville plop down in a chair at the table, he pulled out some parchment and a quill and continued his scratching away.

Glancing at the clock, Harry knew that they were supposed to have dinner in around a half hour from now but he still had to discuss things with Alissa and he needed to unwind a little bit, and as much as he loved spending time with Jenn and Krista, they tended to leave him emotionally drained sometimes.

"Hey Nev, I'm supposed to send Dobby to pick up the girls in about thirty minutes or so, but I need to go down and sort things out with Alissa and I think I am going to take a long relaxing bath before getting dressed for dinner. Seeing how you are so engrossed in your GH plans, I figured you might want to maybe get started down there now." Harry asked as he watched Neville excitedly jump from his seat, grasping the parchment with a wicked gleam in his eyes.

"That sounds like a perfect plan Harry, I have to set up GH2 before I even start planting anything and that will take a little while. I will start mixing the special soil mixture that Mrs. Taylor recommended for GH1." Said Neville as he followed Harry into his closet.

“Okay Nev, but don’t get to carried away, two, three hours tops okay. In the back of the main room, you will find all the tools you need in those storage cabinets as well as some overalls to change into, I wouldn’t want you to embarrass yourself the first time meeting Krista & Jennifer with soil stains all over your clothes.” Laughed Harry as Neville simply nodded.

“Will you be bringing out Alissa at dinner time, I would love to meet her. I think it’s super wicked that you have a snake Familiar now, I mean if I could speak snake language, you bet your ass I would how a few snake Familiars.” Said Neville as he watched Harry pull out his trunk and enlarged it as he pulled open the lid.

Laughing at what Neville just said, Harry and Neville walked down into his trunk, pulling the lid closed as they entered. Reaching the bottom, Harry pressed the button to open The Herbology compartment and turned to face Neville as they watched the Green door float into view down the hallway.

“That does seem to make sense though, doesn’t it? I mean who turns down a Familiar that they could actually converse with? I have a feeling though, that most people will not see it that way. I will get yelled at for being evil and more rumors will fly about, but really I don’t care. As long as she and I have an understanding and as our bond deepens, all the haters can go to hell.” finished Harry as Neville laughed as he made his way to the door.

“I like this knew Harry who doesn’t care what others say about him. The moody, brooding Harry wasn’t much fun.” laughed Neville before he continued. “ As for what the others say about Alissa, who cares, let them talk, it’s only jealousy. As far as I’m concerned, if she’s a friend of yours, then she’s a friend of mine. I will even give her a kiss smack dab in the middle of the Great Hall.” Neville finished as he opened the door and walked in closing it behind him.

Harry just chuckled at the thought of Neville kissing Alissa in the middle of the Great Hall in front of everyone. Shaking those thoughts away, he pressed the last button and watched the golden door float into view. As he entered the living quarters, he called out for Alissa as he closed the door behind him.

Walking in to the huge entrance hall, Harry still hadn't fully explored this compartment yet, but seeing how Mister Whitehead had elaborated on the other compartments, Harry was curious what he did to the living quarters. The main thing he was hoping for was an immaculate restroom that he was now absolutely addicted to. Funny, he had always been accustomed to whatever meager means was afforded to him, but now, having not only the ability, but the money to literally do and have whatever he pleased, well there's just no going back from that.

Walking past the huge fireplace, Harry made his way across the hall and opened a door and stepped inside. Looking around to a rather large living area with plenty of comfortable seating, it had two massive staircases on either side of the opposite wall from the door that met in the middle on the second landing. Looking up he studied the beautiful woodwork on the landing banister before his eyes drifted around this living area. He noticed there was another door off to the side and he decided to check this door out before heading up the stairs.

Opening the door, he looked onto a very exquisite kitchen, complete with a very large dining table. Exiting the kitchen, he made his way to the stairs to investigate the second floor. As he reached the second floor hallway, he peered down the hallway and spotted another set of stairs on the far side of the hallway. There were four doors on either side of the hallway and as he made his way to the stairs, he peeked inside each door and what he found were three moderate sized bedrooms and one large bathroom on each side. Walking up the stairs leading to the third floor, they spiraled up and when he reached the third floor he spotted two doors. One was all the way down this third floor hallway and the other was just to the right of the stairs.

Peaking in the door that was closest, he observed another Bedroom, but this one was massive. It had a huge living area, complete with small table and a nice plush sofa. There were two other doors in this room that Harry assumed were a bathroom and maybe closet. Quickly closing the door, he made his way down the Hallway to the last door. Opening it slowly, he walked inside and strangely felt right at home, it was kind of weird. Walking over to the bed, he took a seat

and leaned back and was instantly smothered in comfort. This bed was actually better then the one he had outside this trunk, and a smile came across his face.

Sitting back up, he noticed that this room was slightly bigger then the one previous but it felt so comfortable, it also had two doors but this time he wanted to investigate. Opening the first one, it was much like he thought, a nice sized walk in closet. Now the moment he was looking forward to, the master bathroom. Crossing his fingers he opened the door fast with his eyes closed. Waiting a second, he finally opened his eyes and he wasn't disappointed, the bathroom was gorgeous. It wasn't very large but it had a decent size tub with Jacuzzi features and over to the other side it had a five head shower that was also decent size. The floor was made of marble and seemed to be heated, as he made his way around the little wall where he guessed the toilet was located, He finally spotted Alissa, coiled around the base of the toilet, apparently asleep.

"Allisa,..... wake up..... Alissa,..... I'm back" said Harry as he walked back over towards the tub and turned on the water as it began to fill, Harry turned back around to watch Alisssa slithering over towards him. Catching a glimpse of himself in the mirror, he almost forgot that he was still wearing his disguise as one James Harrington and figured he should explain before removing it.

"Alissa, I mentioned before that I would explain everything to you and I am going to do just that right now. First, I mentioned that I did not want to be seen with you in public due to others impressions, but like I also said, I am NOT ashamed or embarrassed of you. It's just this, what you see, is not the real me. I wear this disguise in public so I can go about my business in peace. I am going to introduce you to the real me, don't be startled." Said Harry as he pulled his wand and cast the spells and charms to remove his disguise.

As Alissa watched Harry's earlier spells fade, she soon was staring into the greenest eyes she had ever seen on a wizard. Her glance looked a little higher and her earlier calculations seemed to be spot on, she just couldn't believe it, what were the odds.

“Harry Potter” Alissa almost whispered as she started blinking rapidly and backed away from Harry slightly.

Harry was at a complete loss of words at here recognition of who he was, so much so that he stood there gaping at her before his mind caught up and he spoke.

“How do you know who I am?” Harry said although from the tone of his voice, you could tell he was still a little shell shocked.

Alissa seemed to be a little shell shocked as well but recovered faster then Harry and actually starting laughing, although it sounded kind of funny to Harry, he wasn’t sure if she was laughing or having some kind of panic attack or something. After several seconds past, Alissa finally calmed down, turning kind of serious, she peered into Harry’s eyes and scooted closer to him before speaking.

“You should know better then that, there are very few creatures who do not know the story of one Harry Potter, as for my species specifically, you are legendary! I still can not believe this is happening to me, I prayed and prayed for freedom, and when that future looked bleak, I prayed for death, and now I am given the choice to have my freedom anywhere I choose, or become the Familiar of none other then The Harry Potter. Give a girl a second to compose herself here, your lucky I haven’t dropped dead from all the stress.” Finished Alissa with a little bit of mirth in her tone.

Harry laughed at that before he started to digest everything she just said. As he opened his mouth to say something, he was interrupted by Alissa.

“Before we go any further, could you possibly get me something to eat, you said you would be back in a couple of hours, but it was more like days.” said Alissa as a sudden realization came over Harry and he stood up abruptly with a look of panic and called out.

“Dobby!” Harry said with panic evident in his tone as Dobby silently appeared as Alissa backed up a little as Harry continued to address Dobby.

"I need you to do two things for me right away, the first is I need you to get me a refillable food bowl specific to snakes right away. The second thing is I need you to visit Mister Whitehead, the Trunk creator and ask him if there is anyway to remove the time delay function temporarily or if there is any way to modify the time distribution." Harry declared as Dobby disappeared instantly as Harry turned to address Alissa again.

"I am so sorry Alissa, I forgot about the time delay function that exists within this trunk, where it truly was only hours outside, in here in was much longer, and I am very sorry, If we can not adjust this problem, I will never leave you in here when I am not present, I promise." Harry declared as he felt extremely guilty for what he had done. What a way to make a first impression on a new familiar, introduce yourself, barely, then abandon them for little over a week, without food or water. Harry suddenly shuddered at the thought of what would happen to him if he had done the same thing to Hedwig. She would probably nip his ear right off his head.

Alissa was inwardly smirking, the rumors that she had heard growing up in the forest about this individual in front of her did not do him justice. He was extremely noble and caring, yes these were some of the traits that had been rumored but to even a snake, especially one that he had just met. She was very good at reading people's intentions and true feelings, and she knew that the remorse he was feeling were his true feelings. Before she could speak to reassure him that she was not upset just really hungry, they were interrupted by Dobby's return.

After hurriedly setting down the rather large square dish on the floor in front of Alissa, Dobby made his way to Harry, and handed him a note. Alissa slithered over to the dish, and as she got close, huge juicy dead rats appeared instantly on one side and water on the other as she began to feast before Harry began to read.

Dear H.

My utmost apologies for not clarifying the details regarding the time delay function, so let me do so now. First, yes you can adjust the time delay but can not extend the time longer then the 1 hour to 1 minute

ratio. But you can lower it all the way down to no time delay at all. Most importantly, anyone keyed into the trunks wards can do so and each compartment can be set for different time delay options simultaneously. While in the compartment you wish to change, walk over to the monitoring screen near the door, and place your hand on the actual monitor screen for five seconds. You will then hear a small series of beeps then follow the on screen commands to the options of your choice.

I again apologize for not explaining this to you for I have a very similar trunk and I never change the time delay and forget that you might need to on occasion. If you have any other question, please feel free to drop a line.

Your friend

H.W.

Harry's smile practically lit up the entire room as he began to chuckle very loudly, startling both Alissa and Dobby before declaring, "Bloody Brilliant! Thank you Dobby for running those errands for me, and so quickly, Alissa and I both appreciate it." Harry finished as Dobby blushed before nodding and disappearing as Harry smiled.

"Alissa, do you mind if I unwind in the bath while you finish eating and then we can continue getting to know one another?" Harry asked as Alissa turned her head towards Harry and nodded before returning to her re-filling food platter.

As Harry got undressed and entered the Jacuzzi Bath, he instantly began to relax as he waited for Alissa to finish her meal. Oddly he was looking forward to the impending conversation. Harry had a feeling, this was the start of a beautiful relationship.

Chapter 14 -- Another Ally

The next couple of days flew by for Harry and his entourage, or at least that's what people around Diagon Alley were calling them, Lord Harrington and his Entourage. Neville and the girls were getting along fine, truth be told, they had spent every waking moment either setting up the compartments in Harry's trunk, or studying and practice dueling, to leave much time for socializing. Neville was finally coming into his own, every time Harry thought about it, an intense anger would flare up deep down inside at how Albus Dumbledore ruined Neville's life. The only thought that would subside this anger, was the anticipation of seeing the looks on everyone's faces when they get a glimpse of the new, powerful, self confident, ladies man that was the new Neville.

A key component to Neville's new confidence was his alter ego, Frank Narrow. Neville really looked forward to going out in public with Joy, Hope, and of course James. He found it almost as liberating as Harry did, Neville too was faced with people's assumptions much of his life. With a new look with a full on background, Neville found that he rather enjoyed being respected and treated with dignity, sometimes, just sometimes, he wished he could get that kind of respect as Neville too. Harry could see it in his eyes, but he could also see a real longing to prove himself. Harry was determined to stick by his side and be a true friend when all the other fickle people finally noticed that Neville was a very capable pureblood wizard, Harry would be there to ground him. The same way Ron and Hermione used to keep him grounded.

Rolling out of bed, Harry began with his morning ritual of a light workout, followed by a shower and change of the clothes. Just as he finished getting dressed, Dobby popped into his closet with a worried expression on his face.

"Harry, I have news that you need to know. First, the Headmaster has awoken and has been moved to the hospital wing at Hogwarts." at hearing this news, Harry was lost in his own thoughts before Dobby spoke again, snapping Harry back into the conversation. " Second, Whiplock asked me personally to deliver this message to you, to ensure that you received it without being tampered with." finished

Dobby as he handed over a sealed envelope to Harry before asking, "What are we going to do with the Headmaster, when he has fully recovered, he will surely be heading over here?"

Harry thought on what Dobby had said, and he knew he was correct, Albus was sure to investigate the matter in which he had been incapacitated. The question that was bouncing around in his head was how much of what happened would the Headmaster remember? The two new components that Harry added to the truth serum, was supposed to enhance the truth portion while at the same time, wiping the memories of the entire interaction from the mind of the drinker. The only problem was that he had never used this on anyone yet, and Albus was no ordinary wizard, only time will tell he thought as he flipped over the envelope he was holding.

Harry had learned earlier in the summer break, that there was a real power with potions that most wizards took for granted. He began to understand why Snape hated seeing all the students over the years pass threw his classroom and disrespect the craft that he absolutely admired. After some serious researching, it was then that Harry started tinkering with certain potions and he currently had several experiments brewing in his potions compartment that if successful, could possibly sway things towards the side of the light in this war. Harry wiped away those thoughts as he turned to address his favorite Elf.

"Don't worry Dobby, we will deal with the Headmaster when the time is right, but now it appears that I have other business to attend to." finished Harry as he waved the envelope around before strutting over to the lounge area in his closet as he broke the seal of the Gringott's letter, something only the intended recipient could do. Pulling out the letter, he began to read.

Dear Lord Potter-Black

As before mentioned, the will reading of one Sirius Orion Black is scheduled for next Tuesday at 9:30 in the morning. As you are the main benefactor, it is the utmost importance that you be in attendance. As I am aware of certain obstacles that you are now facing, I would like to warn you that several inquiries have been made

in regards to your status here with us, as well as several other private matters in regards to your accounts by none other then Albus Dumbledore.

As I do not want to blind side you, I would like to inform you on the projected attendance sheet at your Godfather's will reading. These people have already accepted their invitations: Albus Dumbledore, Minerva McGonagall, Arthur Weasley, Nymphadora Tonks, and Kingsley Shacklebolt. The only other recipient who has not responded other then yourself is one Remus J. Lupin. I have sent several notices, but he has not responded to any of them.

Lastly, I request that you arrive at Gringotts at 8:00, for safety reasons as well as I have a few items I wish to discuss with you face to face. If this time does not work for you, please send your Elf, Dobby with an appropriate time and date that we could meet before the Will Reading.

Thank You for taking the time out of your busy schedule to deal with this matter as I am fully aware of the heartache this issue causes and I again offer my condolences. I look forward to our meeting, whenever that might be, and please remember, That I, as well as the Goblin Nation stands behind you. If you need anything, anything at all, please don't hesitate to ask Lord Potter-Black.

Sincerely,

Whiplock

Gringotts Branch Manager

London

Folding the letter and stashing it in his pants pocket, Harry pondered what he just read. He knew the will reading was coming up but he pushed those thoughts to the back of his mind, but now there was no hiding from it anymore. Walking out of his closet and over to his desk, Harry grabbed some parchment and a quill and began scratching away. Minutes later he was done and put his letter in an envelope and sealed it with a spell. Turning around, he spotted Dobby sitting in

the corner with a somber expression. Harry walked over to him and sat across from him.

“What’s wrong Dobby? Are you okay?” Harry asked as Dobby looked up and made eye contact with Harry.

“ Yes Master, I will be fine, but I am feeling such sorrow right now and I am not sure why? I feel like...like ...like I lost something, this pain I have never felt before?” said a very confused Dobby.

Harry thought about it for a second, that was pretty close to what he was feeling, Sorrow and an immense sadness, along with the undeniable feeling of guilt. After all, If he hadn’t rushed into a dangerous situation without thinking, Sirius would still be alive. If he would have just used his brain, he would have remembered about the present Sirius gave him, how he had a present from the only person who truly cared for him, left unwrapped for months, was beyond him, how could he have been so stupid. As that thought rang through his head, Harry began to feel anger, resounding amount of anger, well up inside of him before he looked back at Dobby.

The look on Dobby’s face changed from that of sadness to that of anger pretty quickly before he stood up quickly with both fists clenched. Harry was beginning to figure something out and he knew that Dobby’s feelings had to do with the bond between them and this strange link that seemed to intensify their strength.

Harry attempted to calm himself down with his favorite tactic, distraction. However difficult this was for him, he was now bonded and it appeared that Dobby was affected by this. Merlin knows how Winky and Hedwig were faring, he had to keep his cool, because if he didn’t, he wouldn’t be the only one suffering. Harry began thinking of all the items on his summer to do list to help steel his nerve. Closing his eyes, he took several minutes to steady his breathing and gaining control, finally he had control over his emotions as he took a deep breath and opened his eyes. Staring back at him was a much relieved Dobby as Harry smirked.

“Dobby, I will explain everything to you once I have figured some things out myself, I plan on doing some research today that might

answer a few of our questions. First, I need you to take this to Whiplock right away." finished Harry as he handed over his sealed letter. Dobby carefully grabbed the letter and then with a final look to Harry, disappeared.

With so many things going through his head, Harry needed some time to work out a few things, he decided to do this in Harrington 1. After re-sizing and walking down the stairs, Harry opened the door to his mansion compartment. Strolling in trough the entry way, he made his way up the stairs and to his master bedroom. Laying on his bed, coiled up was Alissa and she picked up her head as he got closer.

"I sense you are troubled young Harry? Is there something I can do to help you?" asked Alissa. Harry lightly chuckled as he finally reached the bed and plopped himself down on it as Alissa slithered closer as she peered into his face.

"I don't really know girl, I guess it's just a bunch of different things, most of which I am not looking forward too." said Harry as he pulled off his glasses and rubbed his eyes before putting his glasses back on.

"Are you referring to your Godfather's will Reading, or the Headmaster that you recently incapacitated has awaken?" asked Alissa as Harry opened his eyes and looked at Alissa.

"Both actually, thanks for clearing that up." finished Harry in a somewhat annoyed tone before jumping out of the bed and heading out of the Bedroom with Alissa hot on his heals. Harry exited the trunk and waited for Alissa to exit before he shrunk H1 and placed in his bracelet before making his way over to his walk in closet.

Harry made his way over to his smaller trunk and Alissa followed him and asked what he was planning on doing. Harry informed her that he was going to do some research in his newly finished Library compartment when he was distracted by the flashing lights and sirens that popped out of nowhere. The noise startled Alissa, but Harry knew what this was and quickly made his way over towards the monitors that were suddenly appearing in the closet wall. Making his way there, he pushed the button and the sirens and lights

immediately stopped as Harry started searching the monitors for the intruder.

As Harry was searching for the intruders, Dobby popped back in from delivering Harry's message. Noticing the Monitors were out of their hidden spot, Dobby realized that they must have company and he rushed over towards Harry and began pushing buttons as Harry was still searching. Finally, after several more minutes, and after several different views that Dobby changed, they finally found the source of the disturbance.

Dobby switched the screens until the intruder was on the largest screen and Harry was looking at none other then Mister Remus Lupin. Harry had sent Remus a letter weeks ago but he had been so busy lately that he never had a chance to put some thought behind where he stood in regards to the former Professor. He was aware that he originally heard the second prophecy but he assumed Albus would see to it that he somehow forgot about it. Harry was most curious to see just how much Dumbledore manipulated one of his Father's best friends. Dobby looked over to Harry waiting for him to decide a choice of action. Harry decided he would give Remus a chance and talk to him to see if he was still loyal to Albus and if he was then Harry would remain tight lipped around his former Professor. Harry made his way downstairs and out the front door deciding to get some answers from Remus before letting him inside his new safe haven and introducing him to his new familiar.

Dobby and Alissa watched from Harry's walk in closet as Dobby sat on the sofa, Winky suddenly appeared in the seat next to him as Alissa slithered over around their feet and all three turned their attention to the monitor as they watched Harry sitting on the front porch of Number 4 waiting for the wizard that Harry knew was just down the street. Harry watched as Remus came into view and as he did, Harry stood and pulled his wand and held down at his side, slightly behind his back hiding it from view, just in case.

Remus noticed right away that Harry was very defensive in his posture and he could sense the suspicion in the air. As Remus finally came to a stop about ten feet in front of him, Harry noticed how tired and worn-down Remus looked. As he was sizing up his former

Professor, Remus decided to break the tension first with a soft whisper like of a voice he asked Harry, "How have you been Harry? I'm sorry I haven't contacted you earlier, it has been really difficult these past few weeks." Remus finished as he stared at his toes for a few seconds as Harry digested what he just heard.

"I understand Remus, it hasn't been a walk in the park for me as either, but I have discovered some things that were quite shocking, and before we can discuss anything further, I need to ask you a few questions." Finished Harry with a steely resolve.

Remus didn't know what Harry discovered but based on the expressionless mask he was wearing and the deep determination that was radiating off of him, Remus knew this was serious. Nodding his head that he agreed, Remus waited for Harry to start. But before Harry could do so, Hedwig swooped down and landed on Harry's shoulder. Grabbing the note in her beak, Harry read a the brief note and paled. It was Dobby and the note read.

Harry

Three more cloaked visitors nearing number 4 from across the street, possible Order members or could be worse, I would suggest bringing Remus inside, I have placed an illusion charm on your bedroom so it would appear to look as it has before, but do not let him enter your closet or the washroom, for the illusion ends with your Bedroom. Alissa and I will remain in your closet until further directions.

Dobby

Remus noticed Harry go pale and knew something was wrong, Harry whispered in Hedwig's ear and she took flight as Harry asked one question before allowing Remus into his sanctuary.

"When was the last time you spoke to someone from the Order?" Harry asked. The ex-Professor's face scrunched up in thought before finally answering.

"Around two months ago, except for the letter Albus sent me to inform me of the incident at the Ministry of Magic and the ...Sirius." Remus

finished with a look of total sadness that made Harry's heart physically ache with pain. Harry was still dealing with his pain regarding his God Father and appeared so was Remus. Making his mind up quickly for he was running out of time, Harry spoke.

"Remus quick, come inside for it appears we have company." said Harry and Remus followed direction without turning around as he entered the house and Harry closed the door behind him and cast some warding spells on the door before leading Remus up the stairs and into his room. Remus walked over to the small window in the tiny bedroom as Harry leaned against the wall.

"Never mind our visitors, if it becomes an issue, I will be notified with plenty of time for us to take action, let us finish with our discussion." Harry declared as Remus walked away from the window and took a seat on the tiny bed with a curious look on his face. Harry wasn't sure where to start, so he just started with how Remus felt about their so called leader of the light?

"Remus, how do you honestly feel towards Albus Dumbledore? Do you trust him with your life?" Harry let the questions linger as Remus truly thought on how he did feel about Albus before he answered.

"Albus gave me opportunities that no one else every thought about doing, I owe him for his generosity and for providing me with a purpose, with a life. As to whether I trust him with my life, I have been doing that very thing for the past six months trying to sway the werewolves to leave the dark side and become neutral or fight for the light side on Albus' behalf." Finished Remus as he looked at Harry's defeated posture.

"What if I were to show you something that might change your opinion of our beloved Headmaster, would you believe them or would you deny the obvious and stick to your perceived notions?" Harry asked as Remus stared back into those piercing green eyes.

"I like to think of myself as a rational person, depending on what evidence you have, I will take everything in to account and make the most logical conclusion I can." Remus stated and by the look on Harry's face, he seemed to accept that.

Harry asked Remus to close his eyes for a minute and Harry quickly made his way into the closet and returned with his pensieve and set it down on the bed next to Remus as he told Remus he could open his eyes now.

When Remus opened his eyes he witnessed Harry with his wand in hand pulling out a memory of his and pouring it into the pensieve that was sitting on the bed next to where he was sitting. When Harry finished depositing the memory, he turned to face Remus and decided to give a little back story before plunging into the pensieve.

“The event I am about to show you might clear a few things up, but before you view this memory let me explain something. It has come to my attention that Dumbledore can be very manipulative and assertive when he is working towards a goal of his, whether that goal be good or bad, once his mind is made up, there are few wizards who can stand to his amount of power. I never used to question his judgment in the past but you will soon learn that there are always hidden agendas where one Albus Dumbledore is concerned.’ Harry finished while waving towards the Pensieve, before adding, “I wont be entering it with you, it will last about fifteen minutes, when you return we will discuss it further.”

Remus nodded as he stood up thinking when did Harry become so wise and self confident. With one final nod to Harry, Remus tipped his head down towards the pensieve and vanished from view. Harry looked down at his watch noting the time as he made his way back into his walk in closet and made his over to the lounging area where Dobby, Winky, and Alissa where watching the security monitors.

Harry viewed the three orange blurs on the screen and waited for a report that he knew was seconds from being disclosed.

“It appears that they mean no ill will towards you Master, or they would never have made it past the first two wards, they however are stuck trying to figure how to get past the third ward for I have locked down the entire block after Remus entered the front yard.” Dobby finished as Winky added to the discussion.

"Based on my estimations of the intruders height and weight, I believe that two of the visitors are the Weasley Twins, as for the third, I am not so sure although I can tell you that the third intruder is female." said Winky.

Harry pondered why the Weasley twins were there to visit him and who their third friend was, unfortunately he didn't really have the time to handle this obstacle right now, he already had the Remus situation as well as a ton of other things on his to do list. Deciding not to beat around the bush, Harry asked Dobby for a piece of parchment and after receiving one, he scratched out a quick note then asked Hedwig to deliver it and to wait for a reply. Watching her disappear out his window only to reappear on the security monitor as he landed on an invisible Fred Weasley's shoulder.

Fred was momentarily shocked by Hedwig's arrival seeing how he was invisible, he marveled at the intelligence of Harry's owl. Grabbing the note, Fred read it out loud.

Fred, George, and unknown girl.

Why are you here cloaking yourselves across from my residence, as I am sure you are aware, we are facing tough times ahead and I implore you to take extreme caution when visiting this residence as you are aware of some of the security wards around this area are top notch. I am taking my personal safety and those of my true friends into my own hands and suggest you do the same. Privet Drive is no longer safe, for your own good I suggest you leave while you still can for I will be closing the wards you entered around you in two minutes time, after that leaving will be extremely difficult, but I am sure the magical reversal squad can get you back to sorts after a few days or so.

Sincerely

Harry James Potter

George shared a look with his twin and they came to the same conclusion, even though they didn't have much time as Harry mentioned the wards were going to close soon, but they had to take a

chance. Quickly George scribbled out a quick reply and sent Hedwig on her way. Harry watched George write something down and was surprised that they didn't just leave right away. Hedwig landed on Harry's shoulder as he read Georges reply.

Harry

We have some information for you that you will find most interesting, we are with Luna by the way, please give us a couple of minutes to explain, you wont be sorry.

G & F Weasley

Harry pondered how to proceed, he supposed he should hear them out, after all they have not really wronged him yet, but he would be cautious, who knows how much of what he discloses would find it's way back to Ron. As the twins grew anxious as their two minutes was coming to a quick close, Harry made up his mind but still had the Remus situation to take care of first. Turning to Dobby, Harry had an idea.

"Dobby take the Twins and Luna to my Private suite at Flourish's and seal it closed until I am finished here, have them help themselves to all the food and drinks they want but do not let them talk to anyone or leave the room at all, is that clear Dobby?" Harry Finished as Dobby nodded that he understood and vanished silently.

After watching Dobby and the three orange blurs vanish, Harry reset the security wards as he sat down next to Winky as Alissa slithered over and wrapped herself around his legs as they waited for Remus to return from the pensieve.

After several more minutes, Harry looked down at his watch and he knew that Remus would be returning soon so he left his walk in closet and returned to the small bedroom where his pensieve was sitting on his bed. Another minute passed and then there was a flash of light and a very pale Remus materialized right in front of Harry.

The look on The ex-professor's face was one of severe anguish, he looked like he was going to be sick. Harry waited patiently for one of

his fathers closest friends to speak first, after a few tension filled minutes passed, Remus finally gathered his strength and found his voice.

“I...I...always felt like there was something missing....that maybe I was.....II...Just can’t believe it.” whispered Remus as his voice showed all the emotion he was going through.

“The question now remains Remus, is what you are going to do with this new information and where do we go from here?” asked Harry.

Remus thought about it for a few seconds before speaking, this time a little more assertive.

“My first reaction would be to march down to Dumbledore’s office and hex him until he wasn’t recognized any more.” Harry chuckled as he pictured Remus throwing hex after hex at the Headmaster before Remus continued. “However something tells me that you had something else in mind?” said Remus as he watched the smirk on Harry’s face grow a little bit proving to himself that he was correct in his assumption.

“You are correct Remus, I want nothing more for the Headmaster to receive his cum-uppings so to speak, but now is not that time, however if this was the course of action you were determined to take, I would not stand in your way.” said Harry with a slight smile.

“I’m sure you wouldn’t, but I am more curious to hear what plan you have concocted in that wicked brain of yours.” finished Remus with a smile that Harry noticed actually looked genuine for the first time in a while.

“ Well, I have just begun to unwind a few of the Headmasters manipulations, however this is only the tip of the iceberg.” said Harry as he walked over to the pensieve, withdrew his wand and replaced the memory back into his head.

“Well at least I now know the reason for Albus’ incapacitation. Harry I want to make sure you realize that I had no idea that any of this was happening. I may have been a little naïve as to the happenings

around me, I was just so grateful to have some standing within the wizarding world instead of being locked up like some kind of animal and shunned from existence." said Remus as he looked down at the floor ashamedly.

"I believe you Remus, you were manipulated just like the rest of us, maybe not as much, but still tricked into following the so called leader of the light. As you witnessed, Albus has been manipulating me it seems all my life, even before my birth. Ron, Hermione, and Neville is just the beginning. Weeks ago I have made it my mission to take control over my own life, and I will say it was the best decision I have ever made. Don't get me wrong, I'm not perfect and I know I am going to make mistakes, but for the first time in my life, I answer to no one. My mistakes are My mistakes and that feels good." Finished Harry as Remus stared on.

Remus was thinking of how much this young boy has changed from the last time he had last seen him. Already in his short 16 years, he has seen horrors few could barely imagine, yet he still stands upright, confident and powerful ready to stare down pure evil right in the eyes and rebel. How can one young boy possibly manage to complete this task alone? The answer was he couldn't and Remus knew it. If Harry was going to stand and fight alone he would crumble in a short time. No Remus thought, he wouldn't, because Remus would be standing right beside him. After all, what did he have to live for? Remus thought about it some more, he had no wife, no children, no family or parents or really even friends anymore. All Remus had in his life was standing before him pledging his life to a mission to rid the world of evil. If Harry was dead set on his mission then Remus was going to ride along that death wish and ensure that he would not live longer then James' son.

Harry was watching Remus' face while he thought over what he just told him and wondered how his one time mentor would take the news of what he was going to ask him, he hoped that he wouldn't take it bad and could see his reasoning behind it.

"Remus....I'm sorry to have to ask this of you, but I refuse to be manipulated by anyone or anything ever again, sticking to that motto, I.....I...tend to step on peoples toes a lot...so to speak. What I mean

is...Can you give me a wizards oath that you will keep my secrets and to never intentionally endanger myself or any of my loyal followers as long as you live?" Harry said the last part rather fast trying to get through the awkwardness of the situation.

Remus just stood open mouthed for a few seconds as the tension rose to a blistering height before Remus let out a gut busting growl of laughter so suddenly that Harry jumped back, completely startled at first before he looked at Remus as his smile slowly grew watching Remus having the laugh attack of the century. Thinking his former professor has completely gone barmy, Remus finally started to slow down and gathered himself together before speaking.

"I Remus pledge on my sole and on my magic, that I will keep the secrets and always protect the life of one of the most brave, smart, and courageously amazing person I have ever met, The great and powerful Harry James Potter." and as Remus finished his pledge a bright Orange light flashed so intense that Harry had to close his eyes and shield his face with his arms but it didn't work, the Orange light grew in intensity until it flashed several times before vanishing completely.

"Woah....what was that?" asked Remus as he was blinking his watery eyes very fast trying to get the blur spots to fade away. He looked over to Harry and judging by the expression on his face, Remus knew that Harry had an idea as to what had just happened.

Before Remus could interrogate the knowledge out of Harry, he was interrupted by Harry rushing towards him and hugging him with all his might.

After a few seconds, Harry released his hold of Remus and stepped back. Gathering himself and straightening out his clothes, Harry spoke.

"I'm sorry Remus, I kind of lost control there for a minute, it's just...what you said..did you mean it?" Harry asked nervously.

"Well of course I did Harry, I did after all pledge my soul and my magic on it. What I witnessed today in your pensieve really shook me Harry. I have been too afraid of what others think of me to see what

has been right in front of me all this time. The one thing I regret the most is listening to Albus when he told me I was not allowed to visit you while growing up. He said it was not safe and that you were perfectly happy and safe, it wasn't until your third year when I became your professor, that I saw first hand how wrong he was. But even then I was not brave enough to stand up against him, I did have several confrontations with him, but he always won out in the end. For that Harry I will never forgive myself." Said Remus as he looked directly into Harry's eyes with such overwhelming guilt, guilt was something Harry recognized right away.

"Remus, please don't feel guilty about my upbringing. The way I see it, it kind of helped me. It made me stronger, it made me more determined to end this war, so that no one would have to go through what I went through. Whatever doesn't kill you, makes you stronger right?" Finished Harry with a little smile as Remus began to lighten up. He would never let go of his guilt for Harry, he felt he deserved it, no matter how many times Harry tells him to forget it, he never would. Remus practically beamed at Harry as Harry took a glance around his tiny bedroom.

"Well, now that I know what side you are on, let me explain a few things before I leave you for a moment on errand I have to attend to. First, I am emancipated by the Goblins, so I can perform magic anytime I choose. Second, there are some of my closest friends I want to introduce you too." Finished Harry as he walked over to his closet door and opened it as Dobby, Winky, and Alissa came out and into the tiny bedroom.

Remus was quite surprised by the two House Elves but the snake made him take a few steps back before he realized that if Harry had confidence in this snake then he would too.

"Dobby, can you please end the illusion and return my Master bedroom to it's former glory." declared Harry as Dobby raised both his hands and the illusion ended, leaving the two wizards, two House Elves, and one semi-large snake standing in the middle of a rather exquisite Master Bedroom.

Harry Continued, "Remus, I think you already know Dobby and Winky, they are exclusively House of Potter Family members, you may call on them but know that they do not have to follow your commands if they so choose not to, they are not my slaves." Harry declared with fierce protectiveness that did not go un-noticed by Remus before Harry continued. "And this beautiful specimen is none other then Alissa, she is bonded as my familiar and I would appreciate you treating her as such, she will not harm you as long as you don't give her reason to." Harry said as he smiled and patted Alissa's head as she raised and leaned into Harry's touch before rounding and staring down Remus in the eyes.

"I sense no ill will coming from him, but master, he is not human, I do believe he is a Werewolf, you must proceed with caution. If he attempts to strike against you, I will release all my venom into him before you can say the word Nimbus." Slithered Alissa as Harry just smiled and Remus looked on bewildered. Harry decided he would translate for Remus.

"She warned me that she doesn't sense any immediate danger from you, but to remain cautious for you apparently are a Werewolf." smirked Harry as Remus slightly chuckled before addressing Alissa.

"You are very wise Alissa, and it is a pleasure to meat you. You are of course correct, I am a Werewolf but I most definitely on Harry's side of things. I am very pleased that he has someone so wise and protective of him like you. I know you will see to it that he remains safe and sound." declared Remus as Alissa nodded her head to Remus before turning towards Harry as she declared.

"I like him, I will spare his life....for now but please make sure he is aware that I am free to change my mind to that regard whenever I choose." finished Alissa in a stern sounding voice.

Harry laughed at once before making sure she understood where he stood in regards to one Remus Lupin. "Alissa, that is very funny, but you are not to harm Remus without informing me first unless your life is in immediate danger, is that clear?"

Alissa nodded that she understood as she slithered away and Harry explained his conversation with Remus before glancing down at his watch. Remus, I do have something that I need to attend to right now, if you are not busy, please stay tonight and we will sort everything out over some amazing cooking that puts Mrs. Weasley's dinners to shame, I promise. While I'm away, Winky will fill you in on everything that we have been up to until I return, okay?" Harry asked.

"That sounds wonderful to me Harry, I have kind of been dreading returning to Grimmauld Place, and I haven't had a home cooked meal in months."

"Excellent!, feel free to make yourself at home, Winky will show you around and if you want to shower up and relax in the steam room or in the Jacuzzi, feel free. Winky please show Remus around then lead him down Harrington Two and set the TD for 30 minutes." Harry declared as Winky nodded that she understood as Remus watched the interactions with a confused look on his face to what Harry was saying, but he knew Winky would explain everything to him.

As Winky led Remus into the walk in closet and down Harrington two, Harry was left with Dobby standing near his monster Bed.

"Dobby, did everything go okay at Flourish's? is the room sealed off from visitors?" Harry asked as Dobby nodded before he continued. "Did they ask you any questions?"

"They did try master, but I didn't say anything other then they could help themselves with the food and drink free of charge and then I sealed the room and returned here." Declared Dobby as Harry smiled at his friend before coming to a conclusion.

"Dobby, I am still not sure about what their intentions are, until I do, I would rather be safe then sorry, when we arrive at Flourish's, please remain near by invisible, just in case, okay?" asked Harry

"Of course Harry, don't worry, if something goes wrong, I will have us out of there before you can blink." declared Dobby as Harry laughed.

"Ready Dobby?" said Harry

“Ready” answered Dobby as the two vanished silently to see about adding possible allies to their side in this war.

Chapter 15 -- Friends or Foes

Harry suddenly appeared just outside the door to his private suite at Flourish's. After pulling his wand he checked to see that Dobby was ready and with steely resolve, Harry pushed open the door and strode inside closing the door and waiting for it to seal before walking towards his three guests that were lounging in the corner, two of which were still stuffing their faces. Luna was the first to realize that Harry just entered the room as she stood up rather quickly, startling the twins who followed seconds later.

“Harry mate, long time no chat, how’ve you been?” Said George as Fred was wiping his face and brushing off the crumbs that was all over his robes.

Harry not wasting any time, raised his wand, and silently bounded all three to the chairs there were just sitting in with thick black ropes that shot out of his wand lightning quick.

“Whoa Harry Mate, I don’t know what you have heard...” said George

“But we are on your side, we owe you more then we could ever pay back.” finished Fred

Harry thought that over briefly before speaking.

“Guys, as much as I would love to believe that you are completely on my side, certain information has come to light that leads me to drastic measures. Rest assured that I take no pleasure in doing so, but I don’t know who I can or who I can’t trust, and this is the most reliable and quickest way to determine where your true loyalties lie.” Finished Harry as he pulled out a long, thin, cylinder filled with Harry’s special enhanced truth potion.

“Let me guess....truth potion. Go right ahead mate” said George

“We have nothing to hide” finished Fred as both he and his brother opened their mouths wide waiting for Harry to distribute the potion.

This kind of threw Harry off his game plan, he wasn't expecting them to take the potion willingly, maybe they were telling the truth and they actually were on his side. Nevertheless, Harry wasn't leaving anything to chance but he decided he didn't need to go full out like he did with the Headmaster. Putting the cylinder back in his robes, he then pulled out a much smaller tube of a less severe truth potion and closed the gap between himself and the three bound students. Once he was within reach, Harry paused and looked at Luna.

"You haven't said a word yet Luna, what do you have to say about all this?"

"Oh me Harry, I'm completely fine with you giving me truth potion, I already knew you would do something like this, in fact if you didn't then I would have been surprised, I only ask that you please don't ask me any question about who I fancy or any such things, I'm afraid of what I might say." said Luna slightly worriedly.

Both the twins burst up in laughter before George added.

"Yeah mate. I strongly recommend you don't ask her that, unless you're ready to hear...I Fancy you Harry Potter, my strong, brave, drop dead sexy hero you." finished George in his best Luna impersonation as Fred started laughing again with George quickly following him. Luna simply smiled although Harry could have sworn he saw her complexion redden quite a bit.

Deciding it was best to get this show on the roll, Harry stepped up and placed three drops of potion on each of their tongues and waited for it to kick in before starting his interrogation.

"Do you now, or have you ever, supported the actions of Lord Voldemort or any of his followers?" asked Harry.

"No, No, No" answered all three as Harry continued.

"Do you work for someone that you give reports to about my self or the actions of any of my friends?"

“No, No, Yes” was his response. Harry immediately made his way to stand in front of Luna as the twins were craning their necks to stare at her in disbelief.

Harry pointed his wand at Luna’s face and commanded in a dangerous tone of voice.

“Who do you report to, how long have you been giving reports, and what have you reported on me personally?”

Luna took a deep breath and without the hint of fear even while Harry was staring her down with his wand, she never wavered but when she spoke, it was slightly louder than a whisper.

“I report to my father as I am a reporter for the Quibbler and have been for the last two years, I write under the fake name of Anul Doogevol and have never reported anything you didn’t want disclosed Harry, I refuse to spread lies.” finished Luna very quietly.

This was not the answer Harry was expecting as he lowered his wand and looked a little bashfully for overreacting.

“I’m sorry Luna, I think that is amazing that you write those articles, in fact I have read some of your articles over the summer, I especially liked the one in regards to the Ministry of Magic and Voldemort’s return, I wondered how the reporter knew such detailed information.” said Harry with a small little smile, Luna simply blushed.

“Last Question, do you report for, or work for Albus Dumbledore or any other Hogwarts Professor?” Harry asked

“No, No, No” was the unanimous answer and Harry felt that was enough questioning under serum and quickly gave all three the antidote and unbound them before walking over to the table that was filled with suites and grabbed a slice of chocolate cake.

The twins stood up and began rubbing their arms where the ropes had them bound as Luna quietly walked over and sat beside Harry placing her hand on his knee as an eerie silence overtook the foursome. Finally, it was George that broke the silence.

“Harry, there are a few reasons why we came to see you today, although we really want to hear what you’ve been up to these past weeks, there are things you should know first.”

“Yeah Mate, such as our dear youngest brother has been in correspondence with the Headmaster.” said Fred.

“yeah, we’ve been spotting Fawkes flashing in and out of the Burrow quite frequently, especially after Albus awoke from his potions accident.” continued George.

“Potions accident?” asked Harry

“Yeah, you didn’t hear how he was attempting to brew a very complicated potion and the cauldron melted exposing the Headmaster to a highly unstable potion that wasn’t yet complete, he’s been incapacitated in the Hospital Wing for the past week and a half.” informed Fred.

Harry’s smirk was starting to show before he got himself under control to hide what he really knew about the Headmasters incapacitation. He began to wonder what Ron was up to in regards to his former Mentor.

“Anyways, were not really sure what he has been up to for he has been extremely secretive since the beginning of summer.” said George as Fred Continued

“Also, we heard Ron talking to Hermione about a special Order meeting scheduled for tomorrow night at Grimmauld Place, from what we heard with our extendable ears before Hermione silenced the room..” said Fred as George continued.

“Is the main topic of discussion for this special Order meeting, is none other then Harry Potter.”

Harry soaked this information in, there were many different avenues that he could take in regards to this new information, but as he recently learned the hard way, he would not rush into action anymore.

Besides, the meeting was tomorrow night and he had time to seek council with his allies.

“Thank you guys for letting me know, it’s nice to know that at least some of the Weasley’s are on my side. Is there anything else?” asked Harry

“Actually there is, but it is of a business nature. I think we will let Luna have her say and then maybe we can have a little chat afterwards, in private?” asked George

“Absolutely guys, in fact I wanted to talk to you about that very same thing.” finished Harry with the first true smile the Twins had seen today as Fred and George stood up and walked towards the food area leaving Harry alone to talk with Luna. Very nervously, Luna finally spoke in a barely audible whisper.

“Harry, something has happened to me these past few weeks, I don’t know how to explain it. I...I..it seems I have been having what my father calls episodes again.”

“Episodes? ...Luna it’s okay...you can tell me anything ..I promise that I will listen to you....tell me what’s bothering you so I can help.” finished Harry and this time he moved forward and put a hand on her knee, sitting very close to her so if she decided to use that whisper voice again, he was going to hear what was troubling her like this.

“Sometimes I have these wonderful dreams. But lately they seem to be getting longer and something tells me that the dream I’m having is not coming from me.” Luna said in a light whisper as she stared hopefully into those stunning green eyes praying that he would not do what she feared and call her a nutter.

“do you have dreams...or is it just one dream playing over and over.....the same dream I mean?” said Harry as Luna just stared at him with a blank look on her face.

“You mean....you believe me?” said Luna bewildered.

“Of course I do Luna, believe me, I know all about dreams becoming reality, I have no problem believing that you are having someone else’s dreams or even maybe seeing an event that hasn’t even happened yet, you could be part seer.” finished Harry with a slight smile hoping to relax the young Ravenclaw.

Suddenly Luna leapt out of her chair and straddled Harry sitting in his chair with such force that it toppled them both backwards as Luna still had her arms wrapped around Harry’s neck.

To say Harry was shocked was the understatement of the year. Harry just laid there with the young Ravenclaw straddling his waist still trying to process what had happened and how he got himself in this position. Suddenly Harry heard snickering coming from the corner as he moved the blonde mass of hair from his vision and he spotted the Weasley Twins, attempting to stifle the laughter as they made their way over.

“Will you look at this dear brother.....what did I say....I knew there was chemistry between those two.” said Fred as George simply snickered louder.

At hearing this proclamation by Fred, Luna realized how inappropriate this was and quickly got off of Harry and helped him up to his feet, blushing madly.

“I’m sorry Harry...I didn’t mean to...” said Luna but she was cut off by Harry.

“Luna...it’s okay really...I was just surprised is all, give me a couple of minutes to talk business with the Twins and then I can excuse them and we can finish our conversation in private, okay?”

Luna nodded her head as Harry grabbed each of the Twins by the elbows and dragged them to the corner of the suite and pulled up privacy wards around them before speaking.

“Don’t even start you guys ..on to business, I wanted to see how the inventing has been coming and I wanted to see if you could help me

with a few ideas I've had lately." Harry asked as the Twins laughter ceased and their smirks grew as they replied.

"Actually Harry, that's one of the reasons we wanted to see you today, we have really come along with our inventions, using Zonko's as a rough draft, we have made several modifications that I think will sell nicely." said Fred as George continued

"Two of our favorites are these." and George pulled out a small box and set it on his lap and opened it. Peering inside, Harry thought it was several extendable ears but he was mistaken as George continued to explain.

"New and improved Extendable Ears, this is the first box we made of these babies and we wanted you to have the honors." said George

"You see Mate, these are a lot better, and way more convenient. After our tenth Extendable was noticed by young Granger, we decided that we had to figure a way to get rid of the cord, thus you are holding the weeks and weeks of sleepless nights to rectify the situation." Said Fred beaming.

"Cordless Extendable Ears, or what we now call Ear Droppers. You see, you place this small drum core into your ear, this makes it hard to spot that you are listening to something else. Then you have fifteen ears per box that you can place anywhere, stick them to walls and place disillusionment charms over them and no one is the wiser." Added George with a wicked grin on his face.

"Wow Guys!!.....that is completely wicked!! How far do they work?" asked Harry as he was thinking off all the ways these could come in handy.

"there is no distance cut off as far as we know, but only those Ears will work with that ear core, right now we are packaging them as 15 Ears and 4 Ear cores to a box." said Fred.

"So only those four ear cores can pick up what these fifteen Ears hear?" asked Harry

“Right” said George as he wanted to show Harry one way him and his brother use the ears. He bent down and pulled out an ear core and an ear out of the box on Harry’s lap before continuing.

“Here’s another great way to use these, microphone check, one, two, one, two.” said George as he was talking into an ear he was holding and right away Harry understood.

“Like Walkie Talkies!! That’s bloody brilliant!!” said Harry who was getting even more excited. Fred and George just looked at each other and shrugged. They had no idea what Walkie Talkies were, but Harry was obviously pleased about their first invention and that’s the goal they were trying to achieve, after all Harry had done for them, they just couldn’t let him down.

George walked back over and placed his ear core and ear back into Harry’s box as Fred walked over and pulled out a small black bag with a wicked smile.

“On to our second favorite invention, this is Instant Darkness Powder, simply grab a handful like this, and throw it around you spreading out as much as you can like this.” and Fred threw the powder around them and instantly they were submerged into total darkness. Harry pulled out his wand and tried to do a Lumos to break through the blackness but it didn’t seem to work. Suddenly, the blackness dissolved and they could see each other again.

“Woah, what just happened?” Asked Harry a little bewildered.

“It’s pretty cool eh? We’ve been experimenting with this stuff ever since we imported it from Peru. Wickedly effective, nothing that we know of yet can penetrate the darkness it causes.” said George as Fred simply nodded.

“That is cool but did everything go dark for you guys as well?” asked Harry as both the boys nodded that it did and that got Harry thinking.

“Well that is a problem then, you guys have to figure out a way that we can see through that blackness, otherwise we would be in the

same boat as the Death Munchers would be in, although it is kind of impressive." said Harry as both the Twins smiled

"You're right of course Harry and we will work on that, but the problem is we are kinda running out of funds at the moment but we just rented a flat in Diagon Alley and we will open shop within the next few days or so. Most of our stock is some of our older inventions such as the Original Extendable Ears and Puking Pastilles and such, but once we put these two new items into our inventory, we will sure to turn a profit." Said Fred as George also agreed.

Harry was absorbing everything they had said and came to a quick conclusion.

"okay guys, here's what I want to do, I want to hire you, full time as my personal inventors. I think you guys are bloody amazing and I think some of your inventions can really help us in our battle to rid this world of evil." said Harry as both the boys got really excited at hearing this as Harry continued.

"I have a few stipulations to add though, first, those two new products you keep a secret and only supply to me until this war is over, then you can sell them to whomever you want. Second, you hire a staff to run your store so you can spend most of your time inventing and tinkering with your product line. At lastly, you will keep all profits from all your inventions and except a monthly fee of one thousand galleons as pay, each with bonuses and incentives to boot." finished Harry as the twins mouths dropped open in complete shock.

It was silent for awhile as what Harry just said sank into the Twins brains, still speechless they could only nod their heads that they agreed but Harry wanted verbal agreement. After a little more prodding, the twins finally spoke.

"it's a deal mate!" said George

"Absolutely!" said Fred as the two brothers shook hands with Harry making it official.

“Great, now as for your shop.....Dobby!” Harry called out as Dobby appeared before everyone almost before Harry finished calling him out, leading the twins to believe that he was there the whole time.

“Dobby, please go to Gringotts and have Whiplock purchase the shop that the Weasley Twins just rented, paid in full, also have him set it up with the best Wards Gringotts has to offer and have him place the ownership of the store to Fred and George Weasley. Please pass along that this would be personal favor to me and that I would be in his debt if he were to put a rush on the whole process.” Harry commanded.

Dobby simply nodded that he understood and vanished silently.

“Okay, that part’s been taking care of, I had a few ideas that I want you to think about over the next couple of days.” and Harry began to discuss a few things with them as he pulled out his Gringotts wallet and gave each of the twins their first month’s salary with an extra thousand to keep them motivated.

“Thanks Harry, we are going to get right on those new ideas and get things rolling with the store. We already have a few friends that were hinting about wanting to work for us, especially Lee Jordan.” Said Fred as George continued

“Yeah, and we will run by every new invention with you before selling them to the public.”

“That’s excellent guys, your product are just too sweet, I don’t want them ending up in the enemies hands, if you know what I mean. I’m also going to need several more boxes of those Ear Droppers.” said Harry

“Gotcha Mate, were on the case” said Fred as George stood up as well and mock saluted Harry as all three began to laugh.

“Ohh, one more thing before you leave. I am not sure how safe owl mail is right now, I don’t know if it is being monitored or not. I would prefer to keep our little business venture on the down low so to speak. I wish to remain the SILENT-partner if your understanding my

meaning." Harry finished as both the twins nodded that they understood and watched as Harry pulled something from his wrist and did something before suddenly a huge trunk materialized before them.

Harry opened the trunk and rummaged through it quickly, pulling out two small packages before closing the trunk lid and re-shrank it, then placed it back somewhere on his wrist.

"Whoa Harry, that was totally wicked!" said both the twins simultaneously.

Harry simply laughed as he handed over the two packages as he explained.

"Guys, these are muggle cell phones, do you know what they are?" as both twins shook their heads that they didn't, Harry continued to explain for several minutes until they understood and had his number saved in their phone's memory."

"Only contact me through these unless of an emergency, in that case call for Dobby and he will come, but only for an Emergency. I am planning on having a small get together early next week with all my supporters and I want you there, I will explain everything to you later okay, and guys....Thanks for joining me." said Harry as he smiled at them.

"No Harry...we should be the ones thanking you....you always believed in us when everyone thought our idea of a joke shop was completely nutters." said Fred as George continued.

"Yeah Mate....no mater how you put it....it's us owing you in the end....don't worry mate...we won't let you down!"

"I know you guys won't, because if you do, I will tell Dobby that you guys tried to harm me and that he has my permission to punish you however he sees fit to." joked Harry as both the boys shivered at the mere thought of what Dobby would do, making Harry laugh even harder.

As the Twins disappeared, Harry made his way over towards Luna and took a seat opposite her.

“You know, you are absolutely amazing. In all my life, I have never met someone so remarkable.” said Luna slightly louder than a whisper this time.

“Thank you Luna, but I think the correct term your looking for is Rich. It is amazing what can happen when you say gold is not an issue, and actually have a Goblin appear suddenly to prove that you mean it.” chuckled Harry as Luna laughed as well, the real funny thing was, Harry wasn’t joking.

“Now Luna, the last we talked you were going to give me a little more information as to the type of dream or dreams you’ve been having, care to explain?” asked Harry and he genuinely seemed interested in her answer.

Luna was a little bashful, never had she had someone pay such rapt attention to her like the way he was doing right now, except maybe her father, but she knew he was only doing his parental duty. But this, was a new experience for Luna, and she needed a minute to gather her thoughts that were running a mile a minute.

“Well...okay...umm..well, at first it was just the same dream, over and over again....but since the....since...um the Death Eater encounter....I have been having several...and they are a lot longer. When they were short dreams, I thought....I thought they were just fantasies. But when they started to get longer...I soon realized that there were people in this dream...and that I had never seen these people ever before.....well that is when I guessed that it might be a dream or a vision of someone else’s life. Oh Merlin, listen to me, even I think I am nutters!”

“Calm down Luna, I don’t think your nutters....well not totally that is” said Harry as he chuckled and got Luna to smile before continuing, “lets break down the one dream you’ve been having over and over first, then we will tackle the others okay, so close your eyes and try to picture everything that happened in that vision from start to finish. No matter how insignificant you think it is, I want to hear about it. I will

keep notes and we will seek council from some of my other friends, don't worry Luna, your not alone, we'll figure this thing out" finished Harry assuredly.

Luna nodded as Harry pulled his wand and conjured some parchment and a quill and waited for Luna to start describing her vision.

Thirty minutes later or so, Harry had a good amount of detailed information on Luna's visions. She was showing signs of fatigue and Harry was getting writers cramps in his hands from all the scratching. The two teenagers relaxed afterwards while Harry handed Luna a cell phone and explained how everything worked and stored some important phone numbers in her address book. The pure joy that shone on her face when she glanced at one of the contacts name in her new phone did not go un-noticed by Harry.

"Neville is on your side of things?" asked Luna in an excited yet cautious voice.

"He is, in fact, he is my best friend these days, there isn't anything going on in my life that he doesn't already know. I trust him completely with my life and I will gladly give it to save his if need be." Finished Harry with steely resolve.

Luna smiled and Harry had a feeling that maybe Luna has feelings for Neville, if she did, wait till she sees the new and improved Neville Longbottom. Harry and Luna were ready to part ways with Harry giving her a little bit of background first as to where he stood in regards to the Headmaster and the Order. Harry told her how he was planning on having an information meeting in a couple of days to decide what actions needed to be taken in regards to the will reading of his Godfather. Just as they were making their way to the door, the entire building shook aggressively as a loud rumble was heard followed by what sounded like an explosion coming from outside.

Luna thought it was some sort of earthquake or something, but Harry had pretty good idea as to what the cause was and he made his way to the side window that looked out towards Diagon Alley and sure enough, he was proved right.

“Death Eaters!” whispered Harry as his face turned to anger at witnessing the destruction that was taking place and watching horrified as people were scattering and running for safety.

“What are we going to do? How are we going to get out of here?” asked Luna looking slightly less confident than she was earlier.

“You are leaving this place and going somewhere safe.” answered Harry as he turned away from the window as Dobby suddenly appeared right before them.

“Dobby, take Luna to Harrington Palace and make sure all security measures are on full force just in case this is a diversion tactic so they can attack Privet Drive.” commanded Harry.

“What about you Harry, if you’re not leaving then I’m not either. I want to stay and help you!” proclaimed Luna with a little more confidence than she first showed upon seeing the Death Eaters.

“Luna, I appreciate that, really I do, but you haven’t been training all summer like I have, but don’t worry, I am not that reckless little kid anymore. I have a few tricks up my sleeve and I won’t get hurt, trust me.” Harry finished with a wicked smile.

Luna seemed to understand and Harry was right, she was not ready for this type of fighting. She knew how lucky they all were to escape the Ministry at the end of last term with their lives, but she silently made a vow to herself, that Merlin help her, she would do nothing else from now on but train and research new spells so that next time Death Eaters attacked, she would not be dead weight.

“Harry, please be careful...and good luck!” Luna barely squeaked out as the tears began to roll down her cheeks as she rushed forward and gave Harry another one of those fierce hugs. As the two finally broke apart, Harry looked her right in her teary eyes.

“I will Luna, don’t worry....and Luna....Thanks” Harry finished with a weak smile.

Luna simply smiled as Dobby grabbed her hand and they disappeared.

Harry was making his way to the front door when his cell phone rang and he answered it.

“Harry, it’s Neville, where are you?” said the voice on the other end.

“I’m in my suite at Flourishes, but I am about to make my way into the Alley, I can’t stand by and do nothing while innocent people get slaughtered down there.” Harry practically screamed into the phone.

“I wouldn’t either, I just entered the Alley from the Leaky, I’m wearing an invisibility cloak, I will start taking out as many as I can on the way to Flourishes side entrance, what do you say about meeting me half way doing the same?” asked Neville

With a smirk growing on his face, Harry answered.

“Absolutely! Be careful Neville and we will meet up near the Owl Emporium, remember what we talked about, no stunners, this is war!”

“Got it Harry, you be careful as well, see ya mate!” and Neville hung up.

Harry put his phone in his pocket, then pulled out his own invisibility cloak and threw it over himself before rushing out the door and towards the chaos that was spreading outside. The final thought that went through his brain before opening the final door and rushing out to battle was:

“Mom, Dad, and Sirius, please protect over me and Neville, I want to see you more then anything in this world, but I can’t leave my friends behind while this lunatic murderer is out there killing everyone.” with one final deep breath, Harry pushed open the door that lead to Diagon Alley and rushed out to fight

Chapter 16 -- Death Eater Attack

Creeping out of the alley, Harry stayed as close to the buildings as he could. As he made his way past the destruction that surrounded him, he noticed there weren't any bodies lying about. In fact, he couldn't see anyone, maybe it was a hit and run so to speak. Most of the shops Harry passed had their store fronts blown in or windows shattered, surely there must have been injuries to customers but everywhere seemed vacant.

Harry finally made his way to the Owl Emporium and quickly looked around for Neville, finally spotting a slight movement off to the side, Harry made his way over and before he was about to whisper something, he heard Neville's voice.

"Hey James, is that you? It's Frank." said Neville

"Yeah Frank....it's James, did you spot any Death Eaters on your way here?" asked Harry in a whisper.

"No....that was the weird thing, plenty of destruction though...I was expecting Death Eaters everywhere....but it seems more like a ghost town or something...what do you suppose this means? Was it just a hit and run?" asked Neville.

"That's what I was thinking....but something feels off....why would Tom attack Diagon Alley besides random killing and scaring everyone, what is so important to Tom down here?" asked Harry and as soon as the question left his mouth, the answer came to him just as it seemed to come to Neville.

"Gri-gott's!" they said together.

Harry and Neville made their way down the Alley as fast as they could towards Gringotts, as they got closer they realized the stores were not as destroyed like further down the Alley. Making their way up the Alley, they finally reached the part of the Alley where you could first spot the marvelous white marble building that was Gringotts. Harry stopped Neville by grabbing him by the elbow.

Starting about a hundred yards before the stone steps that led to the entry way of the bank, there were scorch marks randomly splattered across the ground. The two boys slowly continued inching closer to the bank entrance, noticing along the way that the scorch marks were way more frequent as they grew closer.

“It looks like the Goblin guards made things a little challenging for the Death Munchers, I hope they killed a few at least....Hey Nev, be ready..... as soon as we enter lets split up, you go right and I will go left, cast a privacy charm on the inside of your cloak and hold your phone in your non-wand hand and make sure it’s set to vibrate, just in case.” finished Harry in a no nonsense tone.

“Right and Harry.....don’t worry about me....I can take care of myself now thanks to you but I’m not an idiot, if it gets to hot in there, then I’m out, I have a portkey that will return me to Longbottom Manor so I can come back and finish the job later.” finished Neville with a chuckle.

“That’s perfect Nev, look I don’t want you firing anything off until I make the first move and only then on the down low, I would prefer if they didn’t know about your talents at this stage, they already know about the boy who lived and will be coming after me until I die, so if you have to fire, cast silently or nonverbally if you can, and stay under that cloak no matter what. Even if they capture me, do not show yourself, I will get free okay, trust me” finished Harry confidently.

“Okay Harry....you take the lead and I’ll follow...be careful and get out safe Mate.” said Neville.

“You too Mate.” and as Harry made his way up the steps he heard Neville cast his privacy spell and then he could no longer hear Neville’s footsteps. After casting his own privacy spell, he continued up the steps and reached the door just as Neville was opening the other side and they both snuck inside and veered their different directions.

The first thing Harry noticed was the missing Goblin guards that were usually posted at the front doors. Walking through the entry hall, Harry slowed at the sight before him. All along the bank teller cubicles

where the Goblins did business high above their customers, laid the evidence of Death Eater handiwork. There were a few dead Goblins laid across some cubicles where others were blown backwards, spraying blood all over the back walls. In front of the Goblin work station was an even sorrier sight. The poor customers that were unlucky enough to be doing business when the Death Eaters stormed the bank, were now littered across the bank floor. Most of the carnage was human, Harry assumed that most of the Goblins retreated somehow to avoid the attack, except for those unlucky few who must have been caught off guard. Harry had to look away from the main banking area, the stench of death emanating from the main floor was making his stomach turn.

Harry looked across from his position to where he imagined Neville must be. The entrance to the carts that lead down to the bank vaults was on Neville's side. He hoped that whenever the Death Eaters left the vaults, Neville wasn't caught off guard. Harry refocused and made his way over towards the business offices where he knew Whiplock, the Goblin Branch Manager's office was located. For some odd reason, Harry had a feeling that whatever the Death Eaters were after, it had something to do with Whiplock. Harry slowly made his way down the hall.

As Harry slowly crept into Borak's office, he noticed right away that a battle ensued within this room. But what immediately grabbed his attention was lying in the corner of the room. There was at least twenty Death Eaters stacked on top of each other in a massive bloody and mangled mess. Flipping open his cell phone that he was holding in his non wand hand, Harry took several pictures of the dead Death Eaters with close ups on their mask-less faces. Since most of them had lost their masks, this only took a few seconds as they were stacked so he could get several faces at once. Closing his phone, he made his way towards the back of the office where he noticed Borak lying across the floor, face down, behind where his desk stood. He wasn't moving, but Harry couldn't tell if he was alive or dead. He quickly made his way over and flipped him over, to his surprise, the Goblin stirred.

"Who's.....there?" came the barely audible whisper from Borak.

"It's Harry Potter Borak, I'm under my invisibility cloak, what happened?" asked Harry after canceling his privacy charms from within his cloak.

"Mister Potter....there is no time....You must help my Lord....Death Eaters are torturing him.....I....I...Tried to hold them off as long as I could....but....but....too many...no power....too weak....I....I....tried....but....but...you Lord Potter....with your bonded friend....you...you....could help Lord Whiplock....you must not let them break him and gain access to the vaults.....I know.....I know what they are after.Help my Lord." Borak finished with a long exhale of breath as his eyes closed and it looked like he was fading.

"What is it Borak? What are the Death Eaters after? Tell me Borak and I will help Whiplock keep it safe." Harry pleaded as he watched Borak's eyes flutter open briefly as he let out.

"2....1....7.....vaul...." one final exhale and Borak was no more.

"They will pay for this Borak....I promise you....soon the Death Eater reign will be no more!" Harry said forcefully as he rose and recast the privacy charm on the inside of his cloak and made his way towards the rear section of the large entry way that lead to Whiplock's office. As he grew closer he could see light cascading through the smashed up double doors from spell fire and he could hear voices, one in particular that made his anger rise at an unbelievable rate. There was no mistaking who was leading this operation.

"Lucius Malfoy!" Harry grinded out as he was losing control over his emotions very quickly.

Harry finished making his way towards the shredded front doors and peeked in to assess the situation to see what he was facing before he lost control and blew his cover. He counted eleven Death Eaters, including Malfoy. Whiplock was bound to his office chair, and looked to have taken some serious abuse. At least he was still alive, for now, how much longer would he stay that way looked to be up to Harry. As he was about to make his move into the office when his cell phone vibrated, and he backed up and re-entered Borak's office as he flipped open his phone.

“What’s your status Nev?” asked Harry

“I made it as far as I could down the cart path, it seems our Death Eater buddies are having a hard time trying to gain access any farther as well. There seems to be some pretty strong wards preventing anyone from crossing through. There is fourteen Death Eaters in six different carts, all throwing various spells to weaken the wards that doesn’t seem to be making a dent. Harry....the reason why I called is, they are sitting ducks right now. They are all lined up, trapped between the Goblin ward barrier and me, and I’m safe standing on the last of the track on land, and they are suspended over the canyon at the entrance to the vaults. If we were going to make a move...”

“Your right Nev, that is to perfect to pass up. I know that canyon you are talking about. It always freaks me out a little when I pass over that pit of death. Do you think you can blast them all off the track and into the gorge without taking return fire?” Harry asked realistically.

“I am sure I could blast the first three carts for sure, but the two closest carts to the Goblin ward line I doubt I could do much without them blasting back but I still have the advantage because I can retreat and they are trapped. At least I can eliminate half of their numbers down here, it’s a risk I have to take.” Neville finished assertively.

“I agree Mate, but lets do this the smart way. I have an idea but it will take a minute to set up, what I want you to do is take as many pictures with your cell phone as you can, and zoom in as close as you can as well while I set things up, I’ll call you back.” then Harry disconnected and he calmly thought of what he needed right now without saying a word. Dobby appeared silently standing right in front of him and under the cloak as well.

“Dobby, that was bloody brilliant! How did you know to appear under the cloak?” Harry asked as he looked at Dobby dumbfounded.

Dobby looked thoughtful for a second before answering, “ I’m not really sure Master Harry, I could just sense that you needed Dobby’s Help and yous needed me to be unseen, then I’s be sensing you

under your cloak before I arrived, so I popped in under it." Dobby finished with a little grin before asking, "what is you needed Master?"

"The Death Eaters that were attacking the Alley earlier was all just a distraction to attack the Bank, Neville and I went to investigate and he has just informed me that there are fourteen Death Eaters trapped like sitting ducks, but we need to move fast and there is no time for me to help him and I have a situation building in the office next door that needs my immediate attention." Harry said rather quickly.

"I understand." nodded Dobby.

"What I need Dobby is for you to help Neville blast those Death Eaters and send them on the express way to hell. But Dobby, we may be bonded but I refuse to order you to kill or be involved in this war more then you want to be. I mean popping me away from danger is one thing, but ending a wizards life is another, even if that wizard is a murdering piece of dragon dung!"

"Oh no Master Harry Potter Sir, you saved my life, Winky's too. If you hadn't done what.....I....I would most likely be no more Master sir, it would be Dobbys honor to assist the great Harry Potter sir in defeating the evil dark wizards. Dobby will gladly strike down those Death Eater Scum!" Declared Dobby with slight authority.

"Great Dobby, I knew I could count on you. I am lucky to have such an amazing friend stand with me in defiance of evil. Here's my plan, we need to strike fast and hard, if what Neville tells me is true, it shouldn't take the two of you together but only a few minutes max. I will start attacking the eleven Death Eaters torturing Whiplock. The second you two are done in the vaults, pop Neville and yourself to Whiplocks office near the double doors. Keep Neville under his cloak, I don't want Voldermort to know that he is aiding me yet. The longer we keep that a secret the better. Tell Neville to only intervene if there is no other option and to do his best to keep his identity unknown."

"I understand Master Harry, they must not find Lord Longbottom helping you. But Master...you cant possibly take on eleven Death Eaters on by yourself....alone?" asked Dobby with a slight cracking in his voice.

"I have the element of surprise, not to mention a few tricks up my sleeve. Also I made a portkey that will take me back to Harrington two in case of an emergency."

Dobby simply nodded at hearing this information, he knew there was no stopping his master when he has his mind set on something, and right now his sights were set on saving Whiplock from immanent death.

"Please be careful Master Sir, Winky will most likely chop off one of my limbs if something were to happen to you on my watch. Lord Longbottom and I will make quick work of those dark wizards and then I will be joining you in dispatching those remaining pieces of dragon dung!" Declared Dobby with a little grin.

"You just take care of yourself, and Nev and if anything goes wrong, pop Neville out of there. Your lives are worth way more then fourteen Death Eaters." said Harry as he reached out and grabbed Dobby's forearm with a brotherly hand shake staring him straight in the eyes.

As Dobby and Harry were lost in each other's gaze for a brief second before parting, neither of them noticed the slight greenish glow that was emanating from their handshake. The two gave one final grin as Dobby popped out. Harry flipped open his phone then called Neville and informed him of his plan. After Neville expressed his wish of knowing about the plan before Dobby popped in under his invisibility cloak and giving him a heart attack with fourteen murderous Death Eaters mere yards away, Neville was on board. Harry hung up the phone, took a deep breath, then made his way into Whiplock's office.

Down in the Vaults:

Dobby had whispered a plan with Neville and after they came to a resolution, Dobby disappeared silently and Neville, still under his cloak, got into position waiting for Dobby to initiate the strike. Dobby silently re-appeared across the huge gorge where he stood on a little ledge across from the Death Eaters who had just finished launching another set of spells and charms at the never fading Goblin wards. One of the Death Eaters in the first cart closest to the ward shield

grabbed his left arm where Neville assumed where his dark mark was located.

“Lucius, Nothing is working.....it is no use...we can not gain access without the permission of the Goblins, we are going to return unless you have cracked the Branch Manager yet?” the Death Eater questioned.

Neville couldn’t hear what Malfoy’s response was be he realized that their window of attack was starting to close slowly, but Neville couldn’t initiate the attack while that Death Eater had an open line of communication the Death Eaters in Whiplock’s office where Harry was facing incredible odds. Neville knew that it would be a miracle if they were to eliminate these particular Death Eaters without them somehow notifying Malfoy and the others, but he was hoping to blast away several before they informed Malfoy of their presence. The lead Death Eater broke his connection to Malfoy and the carts started to return to where Neville was standing and he knew it was time.

Dobby sent three quick blast of magic and the cart that lead the leader of this group and the two closest carts to him got blasted off the tracks. Before the other Death Eaters knew what was going on, half of their numbers had plummeted to their deaths. The remaining Death Eaters finally catching on, pulled their wands and started blasting across the gorge where the blasting was coming from as the carts sped up to make it back into the tunnel area and away from being sitting ducks. There was only one flaw to this plan, they were headed unaware, straight towards a cloaked and very pissed, Neville Longbottom.

As the carts made their way closer and closer to him, Dobby continued to rain down spells from across the gorge, completely distracting the Death Eaters as they shielded and fired back spells towards their unknown attacker. A Death Eater in the lead cart turned his attention towards the entrance to the caves that would save them from those blasts from across the gorge. Thinking that they were going to make it to safety before suddenly he witnessed a blinding purple hex that seemed to shoot out of nowhere headed right for him and the final thought that crossed that Death Eaters mind was, why hadn’t his Master listened to him when he try to persuade them from

not attacking Gringotts, no one survived an attack on Gringotts, not even Lord Voldermort. The purple blast hit just above the wheels on cart, blasting it backwards as shredded metal and Death Eater body parts sprayed the remaining two carts, alerting them that there was another attacker to be aware of. They didn't need to worry for long, because Neville's blast distracted the last two carts just long enough for them to drop the shields they were holding and Dobby let a plethora of spells loose as Neville fired multiple Reductos at the same time. The last two carts were blasted to bits as more Death Eater body parts got sprayed across the gorge as they fell to their doom.

After several seconds had passed and the dust settled from the Death Eater slaughter, Dobby re-appeared in front of Neville who removed his cloak still watching the last of the Death Eaters disappear down the black hole as a grin began to grow across his face.

"Lord Longbottom, that went exactly as we planned" grinned Dobby as Neville's smile grew even larger.

"That it did Dobby, you were bloody brilliant! Doesn't it feel amazing ridding this world of such foul and evil bastards?" asked Neville.

Dobby laughed as he nodded that he agreed before his smile disappeared and his expression grew serious.

"Lord Longbottom, we must return to Whiplock's office, Master Harry is batteling eleven Death Eaters as we speak." said Dobby very quickly but Neville understood the urgency and put on his cloak holding it open for Dobby to enter before letting it fall to the ground as Dobby embraced Neville around the waist as the two silently disappeared from that dark cart tunnel.

Whiplock's Office:

Harry slowly made his way into Whiplock's office as he took stock of the situation. He knew that most of these Death Eaters were mere lackey's, muscle really with no brains. His main problem was Lucius Malfoy, he knew how dangerous he could be and he knew that if he was going to overtake this group of Death Eaters single handedly, he

would have to eliminate Malfoy first off. Harry made his way to just behind Whiplocks chair and got ready to make his move as Malfoy suddenly got a message clasping his Dark mark on his arm and his eyes glazed over.

“I figured as Much.....don’t waste any more time down there.....return to the Lobby and prepare for our departure....The Goblin guards will be here soon....we have precious little time.....No...He is being rather stubborn, but no matter, he will be facing his maker shortly....make sure our exit is ready and the dark mark set above Gringotts....we will meet you in the Lobby in five minutes.” Lucius finished as the glazed look in his eyes vanished and he looked down onto Whiplock, who for being tortured for the last five to ten minutes, had a wicked toothy grin on his face as Malfoy Senior addressed the Head of the London Goblin Branch for the final time.

“ I don’t know why you are smiling? Are you so ignorant that you can not even realize that you are taking the last few breaths of you miserable and worthless existence?” Malfoy sneered as the Goblin’s toothy grin only grew larger.

“ I am smiling you Death Eater Scum, because you are correct, the Goblin guards will be here soon and I will bet all the gold in this bank, that you eleven will never make it out of this bank alive.” chuckled the Head Goblin as Lucius lashed out and hit the Goblin with another slashing hex across his torso that squirted out blood almost on Harry and his cloak.

Harry winced at the sight of the gash that appeared across Whiplock’s chest and he knew if he was going to save Whiplock from death, then he needed to act now and could not wait any longer for Dobby and Neville to back him up. After several options of spells sailed through his mind, he finally decided on a course of action and proceeded to do the unthinkable, battle eleven Death Eaters by himself at the same time saving the bound Head Goblin from eminent death. Closing his eyes and channeling all of his newly found will power into the spell on the tip of his tongue, he opened his eyes as he shouted out as loud as he could.

“CONJUNCTIVITIS!!!” Harry shouted as a golden green light blinded the entire room before anyone knew what was going on. That curse is intended to effect the vision of the target for a few seconds, however, the spell Harry just cast, was a wide range spell, and was so strong that it blinded everyone for several minutes. Mila-seconds after he cast that spell, Harry threw off his invisibility cloak and threw it over Whiplock and then he rolled him in his chair into the corner of the room as the Death Eaters pulled their wands while rubbing their eyes trying to restore their vision.

Phase one complete, Harry moved onto phase two and shouted, “ IMPEDIMENTUM” and all eleven Death Eaters slowed to a barely moving rate. With all the time that he needed now, Harry wasted no time in stunning Malfoy then binding him as he watched him land hard on the ground with a clunk. Then he proceeded to the remaining ten Death Eaters as he blasted away without remorse, no stunners this time.

After the last of the Death Eaters had fallen, time sped back up to normal as Harry walked over to the unconscious Lucius as Dobby and Neville silently popped in as Dobby came out and Neville remained invisible, as per Harry’s orders to remain unseen. Harry rolled Malfoy over so he could see his face and smirked at the blood that was oozing out of his nose and forehead. Before awaking him and getting some answers, Harry walked over to the corner where he put Whiplock and removed his cloak, stowing it away as Dobby rushed over and released the bound Goblin.

“Lord Potter...How...I...” Whiplock stammered before Harry interrupted him.

“Whiplock please rest, my friend Dobby here is going to scan you to see if we can sort you back to rights.” Harry declared as Dobby stepped up and raised both of his hands and continued to scan the Branch Manager’s body as his hands glowed an eerie green glow.

“I can heal the bones Master but the gashes are extremely deep and he has lost a lot of blood. I am at a loss as to how to proceed.” Dobby finished as suddenly their number grew by one as Winky silently appeared.

“Master...Winky is being able to heal the Branch Managers cuts and is bringing with her Goblin blood replenishing potion.” squealed Winky while holding up the small vial of potion.

“Excellent Winky, please help Dobby get our friend here healthy once more, I have a few questions for Dobby’s previous Owner. Once you are finished with Whiplock Dobby, you are free to help me with this piece of Dragon Dung, I think a little payback for years of mistreatment is in order, don’t you think?” Harry let the question linger as the smile grew on Dobby’s face.

As the two elves pulled their magic together and began healing Whiplock, Harry made his way over to the bound and stunned Malfoy. After levitating him up he placed him an a spare office chair that was off to the side and bound him to the chair as well, better to be safe then sorry. Just before Harry was about to revive the Malfoy senior, twenty to fourty Goblin guards busted into the office with swords and staffs a blazin.

Before any Goblin could cast a single thing, Whiplock stood up so fast and shouted for all to hear.

“ Lower your weapons at once! Lord Potter-Black and his two bonded elves just risked their lives to save mine by taking on almost thirty Death Eaters by themselves.” Whiplock declared as every Goblin guard lowered their weapons immediately and bowed low at the feet of Harry.

“ Lord Potter-Black, please forgive us for brandishing our weapons at you after all you have done for the Goblin nation. It would be my honor if you would like to take my life for such an atrocity.” said the Head Goblin guard.

“That will of course not be necessary, please all of you rise. There is still much to be done and I do not have a lot of time for the Ministry Aurors will be here soon and I would prefer to gone by such time.” Harry finished and all the Goblin guards rose as one.

Whiplock completely healed, thanked Dobby and Winky with huge hugs to the shock of every Goblin in the room before making his way to stand in front of Harry.

“Lord Potter-Black, there is no way I can possibly repay you for what you have done for me and my people, but rest assured I will be attempting everything within my power to pay you back, even if takes me the rest of my days or even my life.” finished Whiplock as he dropped to his knees and bowed down to Harry.

“Please Whiplock, that is not necessary. I would have done the same to any one under the circumstances. I made a vow to put an end to the evil that is known as Tom Riddle and his Death Eaters. They killed many today and their destruction is all around us. Evil like that does not deserve the decency most criminals get in this country, they deserve nothing short of painful deaths, I plan to see that they all get their just deserts.” Harry proclaimed proudly as once again every Goblin in the room dropped to a knee and joined their Goblin Leader as they bowed down to Harry.

Deciding it was futile to argue with the Goblins seeing how it made no difference in their actions, Harry decided to waste no more time and continued towards the bound Malfoy as he raised his wand and revived the Bound Death Eater.

As Lucius regained consciousness, he took a quick look around to gain stock in his situation before setting eyes on the green eyed nuisance that was standing right in front of him.

“Potter!” Malfoy grumbled out with such hate and anger that made Dobby flinch in remembrance to his former Master.

“Shut your mouth Malfoy and tell us what you are after here?” asked Harry as Malfoy began to laugh wickedly as Dobby stepped up to stand beside Harry.

“You will find out soon enough you filthy half blood!” Malfoy spit out with an evil sneer as he tried to reach for his necklace before Dobby reached up and blasted him in the chest as his chair toppled over

backwards. Malfoy let out a small scream as he hit the back of his head against the stone ground for the second time in mere minutes.

Harry looked over towards Dobby with a questioning look as Dobby merely shrugged before speaking.

“He was attempting to escape, that necklace he wears is a portkey that will return him to Malfoy Manor.” Dobby declared as Harry simply nodded that he understood.

Malfoy was spluttering expletives as Harry righted his chair again with a little smirk before cutting off his necklace with his wand and levitated the necklace/portkey and let it rest on Whiplocks desk as the slight look of fear finally took hold on Malfoy’s face.

“You might as well kill me know Potter, you will not be gaining any information out of me.” grinded out Malfoy with that evil sneer on his face again, but Harry wasn’t fooled, he could now see the look of fear mixed in with that sneer on his expression. Harry simply laughed as he pulled out a long thin tube from his robe pocket before addressing the bound piece of dung.

“Oh I think you will tell me everything I want to know, whether you want to or not.” Harry declared with a wicked smile.

“Truth potion will not work on me you muggle loving bastard! Go right ahead I am not afraid of you.” Malfoy sneered.

“ Oh I think you will for this is no ordinary truth potion, have fun spending the rest of your miserable after life in hell for after you tell us everything you wish to conceal, my good friend Dobby here, will get his just revenge by ending your pathetic Half-blood worshiping ass!” Harry finished with a beaming smile as he stepped closer with his enhanced truth potion.

Now Malfoy truly looked scared out of his mind, so much so in fact that he had no reply for the insult Harry just threw his way. Laughing at the justice of it all, Harry gave Lucius a larger dose then he gave his former mentor and waited for the glazed over look to take hold on Malfoy as Dobby conjured some parchment and an dictating quill to

record everything the Death Eater spilled. Getting right to business, Harry began his line of questions.

“What was your mission here at Gringotts?” asked Harry

“To retrieve a heirloom out of a secure vault for my Master.” said Malfoy in an eerie monotone voice. Whiplock was impressed with the strength of Lord Potter-Black’s enhanced truth potion and decided he would inquire more details about it later for now he just watched the events unfold.

“ Describe the Heirloom and what vault it is located in?” continued Harry

“It is a small gold cup once belonging to Helga Hufflepuff, I do not know the exact vault number for the Goblins switched vault numbers after your defeat of him when you were one year old, that was the information I was trying to obtain from the Branch Manager.” said Malfoy.

Harry remembered Borak’s final words and instantly knew what the vault number was, brushing off that thought for now he continued his questioning.

“Where is Voldermort’s base of operations located?”

Malfoy began to grind his teeth before finally letting out slowly....
“ Riddle Manor”

“How many Death Eaters does Voldermort have on his side?”

“ One hundred and seventy two.....including myself and the ones that joined me on this mission.” Malfoy answered.

“Does Voldermort have Death Eaters in the Ministry?” Harry asked

Again Malfoy tried to prevent himself from answering but the potion was too strong and he finally let out a strangled, “ Yes”

“ How many and what are their names?”

“Thirteen” answered Malfoy and he began giving names. As he was naming the last one his eyes began to droop and he began shaking.

“We don’t have much time left before he passes out” declared Harry before asking one more question.

“ What other missions does Voldermort have planned that he has yet to put in motion or others that he has already begun?”

Malfoy again tried to resist as his body began to shake uncontrollably again before he began to speak very quietly.

“ He is planning on obtaining information in the Department of Ministries and he is sending in covert Death Eaters into Hogwarts this year to cripple the light side warriors as well as.....” but that was all he got out as his shaking grew worse before stopping all together as Malfoy’s head rolled back and he passed out completely much like Dumbledore’s.

“That is all we can get out of him, he will not wake up for several weeks but that is no matter for we will be ending his life.” Harry declared as two Goblin guards entered the room and bowed down at Harry’s feet before addressing Whiplock.

“Lord Whiplock, Ministry Aurors are asking for access into the bank to begin the investigation and Albus Dumbledore is here asking for a meeting with you Sir.” said the Goblin guard.

“Very well, do not grant them access until I meet you at the front gates personally and inform everyone that no information is to be shared with any wizards what so ever for security reasons is all you have to say for an excuse, anyone disobeying this rule will meet the end of my Goblin blade, is that clear?” asked Whiplock

“Yes Master” replied the Goblin Guard duo as they bowed while backing up and exiting the office.

“Lord Potter-Black, let me finish this poor excuse for a wizard for you so you can take your leave. Do not worry, no one will know of your

involvement here at Gringotts today other then us Goblins. Tis a shame really, such heroics should be rewarded with high praises from your people but rest assured, every Goblin will know of your actions here and will gladly assist you in anything you need from here on out, the Goblin Nation is at your beckon call." declared Whiplock as he bowed down to Harry once more as the Goblin guards that were still in the room followed suit.

Harry looked towards Dobby to make sure he was okay with the Goblins taking care of Malfoy for them and Dobby nodded that he agreed as Harry spoke

"Thank You Branch Manager Whiplock and I am sorry for the loss of your brothers and

Sisters who died needlessly today, they will be remembered for their bravery. It is time we made our exit now, I will be in contact with you soon Branch Manager Whiplock under my alias of James Harrington. Good luck and may your gold be plentiful." Harry finished with a little grin as Whiplock rose to his feet once more and reached out and shook Harry's hand before adding.

"Thank you young Lordship, I would wish for your gold to be plentiful as well but then there would no gold left for anyone else." Whiplock declared with a toothy grin.

Harry laughed hard at that for Whiplock was more right then most people in this room knew. As Harry motioned for Winky and Dobby to get near, he felt Neville behind him and Harry looked to Dobby who locked gazes with Harry and instantly knew what he wanted. Dobby disappeared and arrived inside Neville's cloak, then popped out again with Neville to Harrington Palace. Winky took Harry's hand and with a final nod to Whiplock and the Goblin guards, Harry and Winky disappeared silently as well.

"Thank Glabrock I granted Harry Potter Lordship, where would we be without the power of that one and his followers, and to think he is only at forty percent of his true power. Wait till Riddle faces him then." Whiplock smiled at that thought before speaking directly to his Goblin guard.

“Dispose of this trash, we will meet with Lord Potter-Black in regards to the information he had gathered earlier. What do you guys say to a little Death Eater payback for attacking Gringotts?” at hearing this Every Goblin left the room heading for the Main Doors with wide toothy grins.

Back at Harrington Palace

As Harry and Winky appeared in his Bedroom, Harry barely had time to recognize two blurs heading right for him before it was too late as he was knocked backwards flaying on his huge bed with Krista and Jennifer wrapped around him squeezing the life out of him.

“Relax girls.....can’t breath....” said Harry in a final gasp of air.

“Oh...were sorry Harry.....Winky told us what was going on from Dobby and we had her bring us hear so we would know what was going on sooner.” said Krista as Jennifer continued.

“Let me tell you the waiting is the worst part....knowing that you and Nev were out there fighting Merlin knows how many Death Eaters by yourselves...that’s simply not going to work any more.....what good are we training and learning if every time a fight breaks out, you never let us join you?” pouted Jennifer as Krista folded her arms across her chest in a huff.

Getting of the bed Harry walked around the bed to where Neville and Dobby were sitting at the table eating some food that Winky had out ready for their return. Taking a seat next to Neville, the two girls walked around and took the remaining seats at the table as Winky walked over and conjured a new chair to sit with the group. It was Neville that broke the tension.

“They do have a point Mate....I mean that is why we are training right?”

“I know it is but.....I’m sorry to say this....but you girls are just not ready for this type of involvement.....not yet....but you will be....with

some hard work!" Harry added and he was happy to see that they were not upset and seemed to agree with his assessment.

"Harry....can you tell me how you killed or captured eleven Death Eaters in a confined space single handedly? I mean I know you are way stronger then us but really....eleven Death Eaters.....including Lucius Malfoy?" Neville asked.

At hearing this news both girls let out a little shriek as their hands covered their mouths that were gaping open. They knew Harry was amazing, but this information they just couldn't wrap their heads around. Harry was right.....they were not ready for this type involvement.....not yet anyhow, but they would soon change that.

"I will tell you everything that happened and every spell I used and why I chose that spell, but first I want to hear how you and Dobby took out fourteen Death Eaters in the span of a few minutes?" Harry asked as both girls let a larger squeal again as they stared at Neville who was blushing slightly at all the attention.

"Fourteen Death Eaters? Neville and Dobby?" said Luna who was sitting in the far corner near the window ledge quietly listening in but not making herself a nuisance.

"Luna!....I'm sorry....I forgot I had you taken here....are you okay?" asked Harry as he rose and walked over to where she was sitting. Luna stood up and met Harry half way as she suddenly lunged forward and gave Harry a huge hug before saying.

"I am now.....that I know you are safe." said Luna as she released her hold on Harry and walked over to where everyone was sitting.

Neville stood up and welcomed Luna with a hug as well, Harry smiled as he realized it was much more intimate then his hug and he figured he was right about Luna liking Neville.

"How are you Neville? You look amazing....I see time spent with Harry seems to turn you into some type of God or something." said Luna at the entire group busted up in laughter.

After introducing Luna to everyone, Luna declared that she wanted to look like a Goddess as well and they agreed that she was included in clan Potter in which she beamed bright at hearing this news as the table continued their information sharing about the Gringotts attack as Dobby pulled out the notes he had taken and the small group started to plan accordingly.

After several hours of war discussion, Neville remembered something and decided this was as good a time as any to bring it up.

“um Harry...with the attack on the Alley and everything....don’t forget about the news the twins gave us....about the Order meeting and everything....that’s tomorrow night....what are you going to do?”

“Your right Nev.....I did kind of forget about that...I don’t think I need to intervene personally but the twins are staying at headquarters and I think they could stash some

Ear Droppers and we can record everything that is said.” proclaimed Harry.

“We can do that. With Dumbles and the entire Order meeting, that will leave you open to head to Gringotts and discuss our plans we made earlier with Whiplock.” said Krista as Jennifer nodded that she agreed.

Looking at the time, it was well past midnight and Harry and Neville were exhausted. Harry decided they needed rest and addressed the group.

“That sounds like a plan Krista, but know I think we all could use with a little rest. I want everyone to stay together tonight and get some extra rest. Lets head into Harrington One

After I key everyone in that hasn’t been yet, and show everyone around. There are enough rooms for everyone to have their own bedroom and we will slow time down a little to give us extra rest time. Then in the morning we will begin our training and put our new friends on their beginning training regiment.” Harry declared and they all agreed.

After keying everyone in, Dobby led them into the Housing quarters and they couldn't believe how amazing Harry's trunk was. Harry meanwhile made a call to the twins as well as Remus and informed them of their schedule for tomorrow. All three agreed that they would join them for breakfast and training and they would discuss things further in person. After hanging up, Harry walked down into his trunk and closed the lid and locked it, then shrank it. Making his way into the living quarters he went upstairs where he noticed everyone was already in a room with Neville taking the second largest bedroom on Harry's floor. Harry smiled as that was what he was going to suggest. Making his way into his master bedroom, Harry stripped down to his boxers and got into bed as he heard Alissa making her way onto the bed and settled down at the base of the bed.

"What a day....something tells me that tomorrow won't be any easier." Harry sighed as he closed his eyes and fell asleep.

Chapter 17-- Preparations

Harry woke up feeling extremely rested. Snuggled up at the base of his feet was his new familiar, Alissa. Carefully getting out of his bed without disturbing Alissa. He made his way out of his master suite and down the stairs and towards the kitchen. Walking into the kitchen, Harry began to prepare breakfast when Winky appeared silently with a stern look on her face.

“What is it that Master is doing in the Kitchen? It looks to Winky like Master is attempting to make food.” said an irritated Winky.

“That is exactly what I am doing Winky. Don’t get me wrong, you know I love your cooking but every once in awhile, I enjoy cooking. I used to hate it, mostly because I was forced to do so and when I was little...” Harry paused lost in his thoughts as he continued to pull out pans and walk towards the refrigerator, pulling out food.

“Dobby has told me little about your younger years.....I am sorry Master Harry, if you want you can talk with me about it. You know that I am forbidden to discuss anything you do not wish with anyone, even under torture.” said Winky as she hesitantly placed her hand on Harry’s shoulder as he sat at the table, placing the sausage and eggs he pulled from fridge down, still lost in thought.

“ Thanks Winky....I really don’t know why I feel like this sometimes....I’m not used to talking about it I guess. I hated cooking for my relatives mostly because they would hurt me if it wasn’t to their liking. But really why I hated them was because they used to taunt me with the food that I cooked. They would love to watch me staring at the food, hoping to have some, but they never did, they would eat it all or sometimes throw away their left overs.” Harry said as he was lost in thought once again before continuing.

“ As the years went by, I found peace in cooking. It’s kinda like potion making really. The fresher the ingredients the better the result. Plus their was the upside that I was left alone to do the cooking, no matter how long it took me, and the better my cooking abilities became, the less frequently I was hurt.” said Harry as he finally shook those

disturbing thoughts from his mind as he rose and continued his preparation.

“They should have never treated you that way, you did nothing wrong to deserve such treatment.” said Winky with a little anger in her tone.

“I know that, but it doesn’t stop it from happening does it? You never did anything to deserve such horrible treatment from the Crouch Family either, but that didn’t stop them from treating you like trash. I guess some people just have evil tendencies no matter how hard they try to hide it. One thing I have learned is evil comes in many forms.” finished Harry as he looked over to Winky who was rubbing her hands together as she watched her Master prepare breakfast. Harry thought that bringing up the Crouch Family was upsetting her like this, before it dawned on him what was really troubling her.

“Winky, would like to assist me in making breakfast for everyone? I have never had help in cooking anything, I don’t really need it but it would be nice to experience what it would be like to have four hands while preparing the food?” Harry let the question linger as he looked to Winky who went from wringing her hands to slowly letting them fall to her sides as she let out a few tears.

“I would love to Master Harry sir” said Winky as the two got down to work making a full spread enough for a whole army.

As the aromas’ of some amazing cooking left the kitchen and rose to the upper levels, people began to stir and awake. Minutes later, everyone was down in the kitchen and eating some amazing breakfast.

“You really out did yourself this morning Winky, this tastes absolutely amazing.” said Krista as everyone at the table nodded their heads in agreement.

Winky blushed a little bit before stating, “I can not take full credit for breakfast today for I did not make it by myself.”

Everyone turned towards Dobby assuming it was he who helped her until Dobby spoke.

“It wasn’t I, it was My Master, Harry.” at hearing this statement everyone turned towards Harry who had a little smirk on his face at the astonished looks on his friends faces.

“At least I learned something useful from my abusive relatives.” said Harry as an awkward silence took hold over the table. It was Neville that broke the silence.

“What time are the Twins and Remus coming over this morning?”

“Well, seeing how it is only four thirty in the morning outside this trunk, I figured we could get some training in this morning and set Luna up with her training schedule to get her on par with the rest of you ladies, before I call the twins over. As for Remus, I wanted him to have a little rest before I introduced him to everyone, he is currently sleeping in Harrington Two.” said Harry as even Neville didn’t know about that.

Everyone agreed to Harry’s suggestion and after some time had passed to digest their breakfast, the five teenagers left Harrington One and re-entered Harry’s Privet Drive Bedroom. Krista and Jennifer took Luna into the dueling room to show her how to operate the marvelous creation of Dobby’s, while Harry and Neville went down in Harrington Two to have a little conversation with their ex-professor.

After Making their way down and entering the mini-mansion, Neville and Harry found Remus sitting in the main living area drinking tea and reading old Daily Prophets. After smelling Harry’s presence, Remus greeted Harry without turning around.

“Morning Cub, I need to thank you once again for letting me stay in this marvelous trunk of yours, I haven’t felt this at peace in so long.” said Remus as he finally put the paper down he was reading and turned to face a smiling Harry and a curious Neville.

“I already told you Remus to stop thanking me, after what you said the other day, that oath you gave, you have no idea how important that was to me.” said Harry as Remus stood as the surprise of a new guest finally vanished as he realized who it was.

“Mister Longbottom, it has been some time since I have last seen you, I must say you are looking very much like your Longbottom legacy, looking good mister Longbottom.” Remus said while reaching out to shake Neville’s hand.

Neville reached out to shake Remus’ hand while blushing at the compliment he just received while Harry beamed proudly at his blood brother.

“He is looking good these days isn’t he Remus, wait until the girls see him upon our return to Hogwarts this September. My plan is coming along beautifully, with all the girls fawning over Neville, I’m free to be left alone to myself.” said Harry teasingly as Neville punched him in the shoulder.

“Thank you Mister Lupin sir, but really I have Harry to thank for my physical changes. Has he filled you in with....everything?” asked Neville as he looked over towards Harry for confirmation.

“He has in regards to the second prophecy, but I have a feeling there’s a lot more to his manipulations then what Harry has told me. I think this is a good time to fill me in Cub, if you don’t mind.” asked Remus as Harry looked to Neville as he nodded as well.

Harry and Neville led Remus back over to the lounge area where Remus was reading the papers earlier and began to fill him in with everything that had happened from Dobby’s rescue of Harry from Vernon Dursley all the way to the Gringotts attacks. To say that Lupin was a little shocked was a serious understatement. After several minutes of shocked silence, Remus finally spoke.

“ I don’t know where to begin really....I mean..first Neville, I can’t believe he could go this far... do you mind if I do a quick scan of your magical core to see how well Harry here has unblocked what the Headmaster has done?” Remus asked as Neville simply nodded that he could do whatever he wanted.

Remus pulled his wand and cast several diagnostic spells, some of which Harry had never heard before, after several minutes of checking where Neville was surrounded in a gold shimmer of a

tornado, Remus finally came to a conclusion. Stowing away his wand, Remus took a seat before addressing the two boys.

“Your magical core Neville is completely unblocked, I don’t know how you pulled it off Harry but you must be more powerful then even you realize to unblock Albus’ magic, it’s quite impressive really. Almost as impressive as that little stunt the two of you pulled off at the bank, Harry do you know what that little show in the Branch Managers office truly means?” Remus asked the two smirking boys.

“Well not really to be honest, I assumed this means that we might have a few new allies to join our cause when the going gets rough, but really what it means is a few less Death Eaters on Riddle’s side, and that’s what I care most about.” said Harry as his smirk only grew stronger.

“It means more then that Harry, when the Branch Manager knelt before you, to the Goblin Nation it is very similar to a wizards oath, and to have the Head Goblin in London no less do so.... Well it means that you have London’s entire Goblin tribe at your beckon call, they will do whatever you please and I do mean whatever you wish, something I can safely say no wizard in centuries has ever achieved.” finished Lupin with an astonished look on his face before it grew into a prideful smirk.

Neville and Harry simply looked to each other in a little bit of surprise before both busted up in a fit of laughter that had Remus joining in. After finally calming down and the laughter ceased, the trio discussed a few more things before finishing up. Remus informed the two teens about what he had been up to for the last few months in regards to the Werewolf’s. According to Remus, only about thirty percent of the Werewolf population have sided with Riddle. About fifteen percent were strongly oppose to his cause and the remainder wished to remain neutral and wanted no part in the upcoming war other then to feast on the remains of the carnage that was guaranteed to be littered all over England.

After their information sharing, the trio left Harrington Two and made their way back into Harry’s walk in closet. Harry led Remus over to the dueling room door before pausing and explaining a little of what

he was going to see before opening the door. He thought that Remus has had enough surprises this morning to last a few years. After the trio entered and closed the doors they walked over to the viewing area where they joined Luna who looked up beaming at Harry and blushed a little at Neville. Harry noticed that she looked a little disheveled and assumed that the girls must have put her through the ringer. Remus on the other hand was transfixed on the dueling area where he witnessed Krista and Jennifer battling seven Death Eater dummies in a vibrant show of various colors as spells and charms flew about the enormous dueling room. After the session had ended, a very winded Krista and Jennifer walked around the viewing area to see two smiling teens and an astonished looking wizard who they assumed was the famous Remus Lupin.

“That was some show ladies, I haven’t seen anything like that in all my years. Can I ask where you learned some of those spells? I haven’t seen some of those spells in a long time, something tells me those are not Hogwarts standard spells.” finished Lupin.

Both girls simply smiled as they shifted their glances towards Harry who simply smiled back. Lupin figured as much but he had to ask anyhow.

“Actually Remus, they don’t attend Hogwarts, they attend a private school.” said Harry as Remus looked surprised at hearing this bit of information.

“Really now, I have been out of the loop so to speak for the last few months but this is all to much. You girls are some pretty fierce fighters and from what I heard of Harry and Neville’s little Gringotts adventure, I think you teens could possibly be the strongest teens magically I have seen in many decades.” Remus beamed pride fully.

The girls both blushed as they thanked the weeks of practicing with Harry for their progress as Harry spoke up.

“Thanks Remus, but we are not even close to where we need to be, this amazing dueling room that Dobby created does help tremendously. You see it gives you feedback as to where your spells landed and how powerful they were cast. The most amazing thing

though is it gives variations to the spells you cast, some of which are very old magic like you saw earlier and those older ones are much harder to block." Harry smiled as Remus understood what Harry was referring too.

" You are correct Harry, although the spells would have similar results, the incantation and wand movements are easier as well as the looks of the spell are so much different that your opponent won't know what to expect." said Remus

"Exactly! We also, thanks to my amazing trunks, have more time to train then the average person, this is how the girls have progressed in such a short time, because to us it hasn't been that short of time, if you catch my meaning." Harry smiled

Remus laughed at hearing that as the remaining teens joined in. After several minutes of goofing around, Remus decided to gauge the teens dueling skills first hand, starting with Harry. After about an hour's worth of dueling with Remus, the small group left the dueling room and re-entered Harrington One to map out the happenings of the day. It was decided that Remus would report at the Order meeting as planned with the Twins that would be arriving shortly. At the same time Harry and Neville with Dobby would visit with Whiplock at Gringotts while Luna, Jennifer, Krista and Winky would remain at Harrington palace and hopefully record the proceedings at the Order meeting.

After everything was planned for later in the day, Luna was eager to continue training for she felt severely behind everyone and she knew that she needed to work twice as hard as everyone else if she was ever going to catch up. Harry knew she was rather intelligent and when determined or challenged, that she would eventually rise to the occasion. Jennifer and Krista decided to join her. Meanwhile Neville needed to check on some experiments down in the Green Houses in Harry's Herbology room in Harrington One and vanished. Harry had a chuckle to himself and made a mental note to check on him because he knew how Neville lost track of time while down there.

Harry decided to Give Remus the full tour of both his trunks and they discussed many things along the way. Harry found that he really

enjoyed an adults perspective and he was so thankful for Remus joining his little cause. Remus looked around in Harry's poitions compartment with complete awe. While walking around he opened one of Harry's storage cabinets as his jaw almost hit the floor at what was before him. Stacks and stacks of various vials and glimmering potions all meticulously labeled out in front of him. Glances at some of the names, Remus let out a small whistle before finally finding his voice.

"Wow Cub....you told me you have been busy but I had nooo idea. I haven't even heard of some of these?" said Remus as he picked up a vile and looked at the bottle more closely.

"That is only about a fourth of my supply. I have them separated into four categories at the moment. Healing, Defensive, Offensive, and experimental. This cabinet is the healing stores, that one your holding is an old potion I researched earlier that will seal flesh wounds quite impressively." said Harry as Remus returned the vial to it's proper place.

"Experimental? I am curious what that crazy mind of yours is tinkering with." said Remus as he looked on to Harry with a curious yet mischievous look.

Walking over to his experimental stores, Harry opened up the cabinet so Remus could get a good look. The first thing Remus noticed was that there were not as many as in the healing stores, the second was that instead of names on the labels, there were numbers. At his curious look to this, Harry decided to explain.

"Well as most of these are crossbreeds and never before thought of potions, I don't really have names for them, so I decided to number them instead. The ones with numbers with letters are variations of the same potion." said Harry as he pulled out a little notebook and handed it over to Remus.

Reading through Harry's notes detailing the ingredients and the purpose behind each experimental potion, Remus was extremely impressed.

“I know how much you love spending time with your favorite potions professor, so I have to ask, when did you become such a proficient potions brewer?” said Remus

“I did a lot of reading on the subject and I was blissfully awoken to all the benefits that potions provide. Also, I learned that different brewing techniques have different results on the same potion, as well as changing one or two ingredients can make a simple potion that much better. I never really paid much attention in potions class, and don’t give me that look, you know bloody well why, but now I absolutely adore the subject, it is so damn useful, really amazing it is.”

Remus had to laugh at that, he loved the passion in which Harry spoke about potions, and he was right of course. Remus knew all too well the power behind potions and he often thought that Hogwarts students were turned away from the useful subject because of that vile and arrogant potions professor.

“Your right of’ course Harry, Potions can be truly useful, especially during times of war. It is very wise to have healing and such type potions on your person during battles, it not only can save your life but can turn things towards your favor with energy restorative potions, giving you the boost to finally put down your opponent. But by the looks of your amazing stores, I think you have already realized this.” Remus finished with a smirk as he waved his hand at the four huge storage cabinets.

Harry chuckled at that before saying.

“I have Remus, I decided that I will be as prepared as I can be and I will use every weapon at my disposal as I can. But one of the main reasons for my tinkering with potions has been this.” said Harry as he tossed a vial to Remus labeled 1-CF.

Curious Remus opened Harry’s experiment notebook and turned to the page labeled 1-CF, after reading the long list of ingredients, some of which were quite rare, he read on to the applications of this potion and his face began to pale. After reading all the way through with it, he took a good look at the vile and then over at Harry who was watching Remus’ expression closely.

"I know it's a huge risk...but in theory I think it will work. I was going to ask you if you knew anyone that would possibly try it out for us for a nice sum of gold?" Harry asked

Remus was still slightly stunned, Wolfsbane was a really complicated potion to brew but this knew one Harry invented was even harder. Holding the vile, Remus watched the thick liquid swish around a little before looking Harry in the eyes.

"Harry, this is a really complicated procedure and I'm not sure you realize what could happen if something were to go wrong during the brewing process." Remus said cautiously.

"No Remus I do, that is why I was hoping you might have met someone during your last couple months that would be willing to try this out for some cash. I know it's risky that's why I want to test it before you even thinking about trying it yourself. As for the Wolfsbane itself, I am quite proficient at brewing it, after several useless attempts that is, but I find it highly unstable with a few of the ingredients counter acting against each other. You will find my Wolfsbane is a better quality then what you have had in the past due to the fact that I grow all my own ingredients and prepare them fresh each time." said Harry as he walked back over to the Healing stores and pulled out a vile of Wolfsbane and tossed it at Remus.

Lupin was a little shocked but then he realized that he should have known better when dealing with one Harry Potter. Looking at the Wolfsbane Harry just tossed at him, it was a brilliant shade of gold, better then he had ever seen before, including Snape's Wolfsbane. Glancing up to Harry he was sort of speechless.

"I'm sorry Harry, I just wanted to be sure....I am kind of sensitive in regards to my furry little problem." Remus said bashfully.

"It's okay Remus, I understand....I mean..no I don't really....but you don't have to apologize to me but I really think my new potion will work, and if it does you know what that means, don't you?" Harry asked.

Remus had a far away look on his face as he whispered the one word he thought was never possible. "Cure"

Coming to his senses, Remus pocketed the experimental potion and tossed the Wolfsbane back at Harry who put it back in his stores as the two of them left the Potions compartment as Remus informed Harry how truly amazing he thought he was and that he actually might know of a few werewolf's that might possibly be interested in a little testing, for the right price.

"I will get in contact with them in a couple of days and I'll let you know. This could be just what we needed to sway the where wolf's to our cause in this war." said Remus as he ruffled Harry's hair as the two made their way out of the compartment and back into Harry's bedroom.

Harry was greeted upon his return to his bedroom by the Weasley Twins, who were both sporting huge grins as they spotted Harry walking out of his walk in closet.

"Harry Mate....we have great news." said Fred

"Mission accomplished and no one is the wiser." finished George

"Yeah we planted six ear droppers under the meeting table and nine others strategically placed in various spots around the house." said Fred

"All made invisible with certain notice-me-not-charms and ready for all our eavesdropping needs." beamed George as Fred nodded along.

"Bloody brilliant guys! Are you sure no one is the wiser? No one spotted you lingering around or anything, because I have a feeling that at least Ron and Hermione suspect that you might be on my side of things?" asked Harry a little cautiously.

"No Mate, no one was even up yet, we did it way early in the morning." said George before Fred added.

“Yeah, then we left a note saying we had a business delivery to get ready for but that we would be back early for the Order meeting.”

“Brilliant guys, thanks. So here is the plan, you two and Remus will attend the Order Meeting, remember to not act like you have seen each other for a long time.” said Harry as the twins and Remus nodded that they understood before Harry continued.

“At the same time the Order meeting starts, Neville and I will make a quick visit with Whiplock at Gringotts with Dobby to discuss a few things and see if we can get whatever those Death Eaters were after in the vaults.” Harry looked over to Dobby and Neville who also nodded that they understood.

“And lastly but most importantly, Krista, Jennifer, Luna, and Winky will stay here and use the four ear cores to record everything that is said at the Order meeting. I do mean everything, not just what is said at the actual meeting, but all the little conversations before and after and everything in between. The Twins have promised that they have strategically placed the Ear Droppers so that we should be able to pick up most conversations.” Finished Harry as all four of the girls nodded that they understood and that they had probably the most important task ahead of them.

“Right O, so we have some time before we need to get moving, what do you say to some more dueling training?” asked Remus as everyone agreed to that plan before Harry spoke up.

“Why don’t you guys start on that, I need to discuss a few things with the boys first, we’ll meet you in there when we are finished.” said Harry with a nod as Fred, George, and Neville followed Harry into Harrington One and they entered the dueling compartment and walked down into the trunk.

Harry waited until they were all in and gathered around in the center of the dueling area before he gestured to the Twins to start.

“So it took some time but of course we got them to work” said Fred

“Yeah, they diminish in power the longer they stay unused, but are quite effective, the ones we experimented with stayed pretty strong after twenty four hours, but start to slip downwards after that.” said George with a grin as Neville looked on completely confused by the exchange.

Deciding to show a little mercy towards Neville, Harry nodded as the twins pulled out what looked like small crystals out of their pockets and handed them to Neville. Still confused as to what these crystals were, Neville waited for Harry to explain but it was George who filled Neville in as Harry beamed at his two brilliant inventors.

“They are storage crystals, what you do is cast anything you want in them and use them like little bombs. These we used stunners this morning to store them.” George smiled as Harry activated the dueling room and two face-less dummies appeared at one end.

“Just huck them at the feet of your intended target but be ready to cast a shield, in some cases while we were experimenting, we noted that sometimes it would blast in a radius of several feet around the target.” said Fred proudly.

“Which of course would be bloody perfect when taking on several Death Eaters at once, you could throw these at them then blast several curses their way, they wouldn’t even know what hit them.” George added while smiling proud as well.

Neville looked completely stunned as he turned one of the crystals in his hand and stared at it with awe before simply stating quietly, “Wicked!”

“Well, let’s see how it looks, give it a toss Neville” said Harry while motioning towards the two practice dummies at the end of the dueling area while standing wand at the ready to cast a shield if need be.

Neville finally snapping back to reality, handed back the crystals to Fred, keeping one to toss as the Twins stood behind Harry just in case. Taking one final breath, Neville threw the crystal towards the dummies and braced himself for whatever was going to happen.

As the crystal hit the floor at the feet of the practice dummies, a bright red light flashed in a circle expanding way past the practice dummies coming towards the teens but stopped half way towards them before finally disappearing. What was left in the after math were two practice dummies lying on the ground as Harry and the Twins let out huge Whoop Hoo's that made Neville laugh.

Harry walked over towards the examining area and pulled out the report as the two dummies flew over for inspection. Harry let out a little whistle as he looked at the effectiveness of the stunner.

"Really impressive guys, you said you cast that this morning?" Harry questioned as the twins nodded that he was correct.

"Just think of what we could do with these in a battle. More importantly think how powerful they could be if we had our little Harrykins cast what they stored" said George as Fred laughed along.

"How many of these do we have and is there limits to what they can hold?" asked Neville

"We have about fifty right now but will be making hundreds more, as to their limits, we think unforgivable's are out of the question but everything else we will play it by ear." said Fred as George chimed in.

"We haven't even shown you the best part yet" George smiled as he pulled another crystal out of his pocket as Harry and Neville got closer to see what he was talking about.

"You can set them to go off like muggle time bombs. You just turn the end here, each click is five seconds, then place them wherever and run like hell." George smiled as the others started laughing.

George ran over to the other side of the room, turned the crystal two clicks, stuck it to the wall, then bolted back towards the boys as they continued to laugh. George stopped as the laughter started to cease before the red blast exploded down the ways as the guys cheered.

"These are pretty awesome guys, what will you think of next." said Neville

“Well thank you my good friend but..” said Fred

“We didn’t come up with this one, just the particulars, this one was all Harry!” finished George.

The four teens left Harrington One and re-entered Harry’s walk in closet then over to the Dobby’s dueling room. After several hours of training and several different scenarios that put the teens on teams against each other, they finished with everyone against Harry except for Remus. It took Harry nearly fifteen minutes but he managed to take down all six teens last of which was Neville.

Stepping out of the dueling room, Winky had a late lunch ready for them and they were starving and everyone dug in. After they stuffed their faces they sat back and discussed their practice duel.

“You were pretty impressive in their pup” said Remus

“Yeah mate, you were kind of awesome in there.” said Fred as Harry blushed a little before coming to his senses.

“Thanks but I took several shots, they didn’t incapacitate me, but I wasn’t fast enough. Not to mention Neville almost got me several times and It took me almost fifteen minutes to subdue all of you. That won’t cut it, I need to bring that down to under five minutes before I can feel proud about it.” said Harry

“You made several excellent points there Cub but these are no ordinary teens you have here, especially Mister Longbottom there.” said Remus as Neville blushed a little as he smiled.

“Yeah, you have a point there Mooney, but something tells me that as time goes on, instead of my time getting lower, it will probably get higher.” said Harry as the small group started laughing until the Twins added.

“That is until we start knocking your ass out” said Fred

“Yeah little Harrykins, were not going to stay your little practice dummies for ever.” finished George

“yeah, but until then, I plan on mopping the floor with you alls” said Harry as the group including Harry started to laugh.

“It’s about that time Harry.” said Fred

“Yeah, we want to get their early, way early, you know.” finished George

“We should probably get ready as well, you know, make sure we get everything everyone says.” said Luna as Krista and Jennifer nodded they agreed.

“Okay everyone, you know what to do, and be smart and safe, and girls, send Winky to get me if there is an emergency.” said Harry as everyone stood up and said their farewells.

After the girls went into Harry’s office compartment in Harrington One. Remus and the Twins left for Grimmauld Place leaving just Neville, Dobby, and himself standing in his huge bedroom.

“You ready for this?” said Neville

“You know it.” replied Harry before turning to Dobby, “Please place our glammors back on us Prongs”

“Right away Mister Harrington.” answered Dobby with a little smirk as he waved his hands and did a little snap.

Frank Narrow and James Harrington each grabbed one of Prongs’ hands as the trio disappeared.

Chapter 18-- One of Those Days

James and Frank along with Prongs appeared at the base of the stairs in front on Gringotts. Taking quick stock of his surrounding area, James noticed that Daigon Alley looked a lot less crowded as usual for this time. He assumed that a rather large Death Eater attack would have that effect on most of wizarding England. Walking up the stairs towards the bank entrance, Neville pointed out a sign that stated the bank was closed due to repairs and mourning of their Goblin brotherin that were so tragically slaughtered. Harry hoped he could still have a word with Whiplock, but if not, he understood.

As the trio approached the doors, Neville was slightly nervous for there were at least twenty dangerous looking Goblin guards with huge swords and menacing smirks. The Trio slowed as the two Huge Goblins that were obviously in charge here, crossed swords and spoke dangerously.

“Bank closed to all, leave now or forfeit your life.”

“I understand General Sir, I was merely hoping to have council with Branch Manager Whiplock, I understand if this is not possible but my opportunities for returning are limited. My condolences for the loss of your brothers, their bravery will always be remembered.” stated Harry/James as Neville and Dobby bowed their heads in sadness.

The Goblin General was obviously taken back by this wizard, no other human has shown any type of emotion other then anger that they could not enter the bank to do business. Intrigued by this young wizard, The Goblin General took a closer look at this human, and what he saw upon closer inspection were very strong and impressive glamour's, of course they could not fool a Goblin, but impressive nonetheless. Looking past the glamour's, the Goblin General's expression changed into shock.

“Lord Potter-Black, please forgive me for my rudeness. I should have recognized your glamour, it would be an honor if you would punish me personally my Lord.” said the Goblin General as every Guard that was outside immediately bowed down upon hearing the name Lord Potter-Black.

Harry was a little shocked to be recognized under his glamour's, not to mention twenty enormous Goblin guards bowing down to a wizard, was not something that was commonly done. Thankfully the Alley was pretty vacant, but Harry knew that wasn't to last, hoping to enter the bank quickly to prevent further attention, Harry spoke.

"Please General and honorable Goblin Guards, rise to your feet. There will be no need for punishment from me General Sir, you have shown great restraint towards my race. I know first hand how cruel and bigoted humans can be and completely understand your actions earlier, they are completely validated. Please note though General, that not all humans are this way, but here in Wizarding England, I'm sad to say that my views are seriously outnumbered." finished Harry/James as all the Goblin Guards rose to their feet upon his command to do so.

"You are correct young Lordship, your views are extremely rare in humans, in fact you are in a class all alone, for I have never met a human with so much honor and power. Lord Whiplock has given our Clan great Honor in forming an alliance with you young Lordship, I will take you to him personally." stated the Goblin General.

"Much appreciated General, I am thankful that your people have such a brave and honorable Guard in charge of their safety, for times are tough and they are only going to get tougher." said Harry. He knew he might have been sucking up a little, but hey, it couldn't hurt to have a few Goblins are your side, or for that matter, a few hundred or even thousand Goblins. Letting that thought slip away, he snapped back to attention as the Goblin General started talking.

"Thank you for your kind words my Lordship, I am not worthy of such praise, but I will make quick work to remedy that in the coming days." said the Goblin General as he quickly gave orders to his second in command as the Goblin Guards moved away and opened the huge front doors for them to pass. Upon entering, Harry waited for the doors to close once again where he and Neville were the only humans in the bank before continuing his conversation with the Goblin General.

“I know you will General sir, and let me say my thanks in advance for any Death Eater scum you happen to incapacitate. If I may ask sir, what is your name?” asked Harry as they walked towards the Branch Managers office area.

“Incapacitate, that is saying it lightly” chuckled the Goblin General before continuing, “my people call me Gladstone but you may call me Rock.” said the General with a toothy grin.

“Thank you Rock, I am honored, let me introduce you to my second in command but as you know, he is also wearing a glamour, this is Frank Narrow, A.K.A. Lord Longbottom and my bonded friend here is Prongs A.K.A. Dobby.”

“ An honor to meet you Lord Narrow, and Prongs sir.” said Gladstone with a wink before continuing. “You were the one to help heal Lord Whiplock, not an easy task to perform, we are forever in your debt.” said Rock

Dobby blushed at his praises before Neville spoke for the first time.

“Thank you General Gladstone sir, please call me Frank, but I understand your intentions in regards to Lord Harrington, he has saved my life as well and given me a new purpose in life. I will stand by his side no matter what and will gladly strike down any who wish to oppose him!” stated Neville a little too aggressively.

Gladstone chuckled loudly at that statement before looking at Harry and declaring; “You have made a wise choice in your second in command, I fear for anyone who crosses the path of an angered Lord Narrow, unless of course they are Death Eater Scum, then I only wish I may be lucky enough to view it personally with maybe some popcorn.” stated Gladstone as Harry, Neville, and Dobby busted up laughing at his statement.

“Thank you for that Rock, I needed a good laugh. In these times of sadness, its what is needed the most, to remember what we are fighting for. I agree with you though, a really pissed off Frank is a dangerous thing these days.” laughed Harry as Rock chuckled as well.

As they entered Borak's office, or what used to be his office, Harry was hit with a bit of sadness at thinking of poor Borak's senseless death. Gladstone picked up on Harry's change of emotion immediately and understood the reasons for it. This wizard is truly one of a kind the Goblin General thought.

As they continued on towards the Branch Managers office, Harry was looking around at all the Goblins that were working diligently repairing the damage and restoring the office area to it's pristine condition faster then Harry thought possible.

Upon entering Whiplock's office, Harry spotted him near the corner directing the Goblins and ordering tasks to be completed before he spotted one of his General's approaching with two Humans and a House Elf. Recognizing Harry immediately, Whiplock smiled a toothy grin before dismissing everyone bustling around him and approaching his savior as he watched the interaction between the teens and his Goblin General.

"Lord Harrington, I hope you received no trouble and were greeted with the respect you so valiantly earned from my Goblin Brothers." smirked Whiplock as he finally reached Harry and was about to kneel in front of Harry before Harry reached out for a handshake.

"You know I have, and please don't make me tell you once again, you do not need to bow at my feet, ever. You are my friend and now we have an alliance between our clans, and as such, it hurts my feelings to see any of my friends bowing down to anyone." stated Harry as the look on Whiplock's face changed from a smile to somewhat of a frown.

" I never thought of it in that way before, but please understand, that is how our people show respect. Please make no mistake, there is no other Human I respect more then yourself Lord Pot...Harrington, with Lord" Stumbled Whiplock until Gladstone said;

"Lord Narrow.....Frank Narrow."

Whiplock continued, “Lord Narrow coming in a close second.” said Whiplock with fierce dedication that no one who heard his declaration would have ever doubted the truth in the Branch Manager’s words.

Neville was a little shocked at hearing the Branch Managers declaration, I mean of course he understood the devotion to Harry, but to himself? Neville was confused. Seeing the confused look in the young wizard, Whiplock figured he should explain.

“Lord Narrow, I may be naïve about certain human customs and traditions, but us Goblins have different customs and traditions as I am sure you are starting to understand. With exception from yesterdays fiasco, most things that occur within these walls at Gringotts do not happen without my knowledge. Did you really think after so valiantly defending Gringotts at great personal risk to yourself, that I would not recognize the power and courage that lies deep within your bones. I understand you are Lord Harrington’s second in command, so to speak, and that you had accompanied him on his task to destroy the evil that haunts us today. But at no time did you have to risk such danger just because Mister Harrington had asked it, no.....no no no. You Lord Narrow, are much like Lord Harrington, you do what you feel is right, instead of following the path that everyone else is willing to follow. Unfortunately there is one thing that I agree with in regards to the bigoted Pureblood wizards and that is that what you are and what you become is greatly related to your bloodline and upbringing. Narrow and Harrington bloodlines run strong and pure and have been so.... for hundreds of years. I only hope you two live long enough to keep those lines going strong...if you know what I mean.” Whiplock finished with a little toothy smirk as Harry smiled on proudly while Neville was doing his best fish expression.

“Thank you Branch Manager, I am not sure I am worthy of such praises but thank you nonetheless.” said Neville

“Nonsense, I think you have proven yourself quite capable. I know your modesty, much like Lord Harrington prevents you from taking such praise, so let us get down to business unless you two just happened to stop by to say hello?” questioned Whiplock

“Yes of course Whiplock, our first priority was to again give our condolences and offer our assistance in any way you feel necessary.” said Harry as Neville nodded that he agreed.

“Thank you Lord....James, the Goblin Nation we’ll be forever by your side. Let us continue this conversation in my office, then you can tell me what I can do for you.” smiled Whiplock as he turned to walk towards his office with Harry, Neville, Gladstone, and no less than five huge Goblin guards.

Two guards posted themselves on either side of the Branch Manager’s office door, both inside and outside while another posted himself behind Whiplock as he sat down at his desk. Harry had the impression that the Goblins were never going to let Whiplock go anywhere without guards and that thought made him smirk a little as he and Neville sat opposite Whiplock.

“You know from our earlier conversations that my whereabouts are closely tracked. Fortunately for me, I heard word of a meeting that has been scheduled for today that started about thirty minutes ago, that leaves me free of interference so forgive me if we get right down to business for I have a gut feeling that when that meeting is finished, someone will be making their way to my summer residence looking for me.” Said Harry

“I understand, please continue.” said Whiplock

“ on my way to your office I discovered Borak in your outer office area. I was fortunate to be there as he took his last breath in this world. I would like it to be noted by your people that he died ever so bravely and he gave me some vital information before death took him from us.” said Harry as he bowed his head in sadness as did Neville.

“I see.... I will make his bravery aware.....might I ask you where your bonded friend disappeared too?” asked Whiplock

“Prongs is taking care of a few things for me in one of my vaults.”

At hearing this all the Goblin Guards shuffled their feet restlessly as they looked to one another. Neville picked up on this right away.

"Is that a problem Branch Manager Whiplock?" asked Neville

Whiplock started to chuckle, and this seemed to calm down the Goblin Guards before speaking; "Nothing seems to surprise me anymore in regards to Lord Harrington. Rest assured nothing to worry about. The vaults have been sealed until we re-open in two days time, thus the reason for alarm. I don't know how your bonded friend has gained access, but if it is okay with you young Lord, I would love to ask him after we are done here." asked Whiplock.

"That won't be a problem, back to the issue of hand. Borak's final words to me were some very important information as to why the Death Eaters were attempting to break into your Bank. Further information was obtained when I interrogated Malfoy Sr. under truth potion. It seems that Snake Face had stored a very treasured artifact in a secured vault before his untimely demise by yours truly at the tender age of one. He had given orders to have this treasured artifact moved and protected in case something were to happen to him. From what information Malfoy had, it had been moved so often and...and,,,well..." Harry paused and looked nervously at the Goblin Guards that were in the room.

Whiplock caught on right away, this young Lord had information that needed to be heard by no other Goblin other then himself, at least for now.

"Guards....Please leave us, I need a few minutes." declared Whiplock

The Guards froze initially, not budging on leaving the Branch Manager alone at any time.

"I SAID LEAVE US.....NOW!" shouted Whiplock, this time there was no hesitation as the all the Guards left immediately, last to leave with a head nod was Gladstone.

"Now, continue please Lord Harrington"

"Thank you Whiplock, but when we are alone like this, you don't need to call me Harrington" said Harry

“If you don’t mind, it will be easier for me to just continue calling you Lord Harrington while you are in that Glamour, you as well Lord Narrow.” said Whiplock as both Harry and Neville smiled and nodded.

Neville pulled his wand and cast some privacy charms as Harry waited until he finished before continuing his conversation.

“We discovered that this artifact was mostly protected by a small faction of Goblins that were loyal to his cause.” said Harry as Neville was watching Whiplock’s reaction.

“ That is very disconcerting, are you sure?” asked a very surprised Whiplock asked.

“Completely!” said Harry and Neville in perfect unison.

“Do you by any chance have the names or contact information of these Goblin’s that you speak of?” asked Whiplock hopefully.

“I do, and we will get to that, what I am interested in is obtaining this artifact and destroying it today before word of Malfoy’s capture and interrogation leaks from Gringotts back to Snake Face. Obviously it is very important for Riddle to get his hands on this artifact, so much so that he initiated an attack on Gringotts, which everyone knows is absolutely ridiculous if you value your life, an assumption I might add that I think Riddle understands better now seeing how NONE of his followers returned after their mission.” smirked Harry as he looked over to Neville who was also smiling.

“Speaking Of Malfoy senior, is it safe to assume that he has officially been disposed of?” asked Neville.

“Actually, he hasn’t been. I hope you understand young Lords but, I have some serious payback to relinquish. Not to mention I think you might want to interrogate him further, he seemed to be a fountain of information that I feel would be a waste to throw away. Of course you know we will have to wait several weeks after your amazing truth serum wears off, but please have no fear, he will never see daylight outside of this bank. Once I am satisfied with my revenge, and you

have no further need of any of his information, he will die the most painful of deaths." sneered Whiplock.

"That is absolutely brilliant Whiplock, I was hoping to further interrogate him, but as you know, we were running out of time." smiled Harry

"I understand, now back to these traitorous Goblin's who seem to have forgotten the damage that Lord Voldermort has inflicted on the Goblin nation all those years ago. I don't know how he achieved it, but I have a feeling that this time around, it will be even worse. I am a little surprised that he managed to sway some Goblins to his cause, but he is mighty powerful, so it is not unbelievable. Rest assured that I will be doing some house cleaning so to speak, and I have several meetings planned with the leaders of many other Goblin Tribes and we will stand as one by your side in this quest Lord Pot..Harrington." declared Whiplock firmly.

"Thank you Branch Manager Whiplock, it fills me with pride to have such an accomplished leader stand by my side during this war. I thought I had one in Dumbledore, but the more I learn, the more disappointed I become. He will try everything in his power to keep me under his thumb, for reasons he has never explained, he tried once but I feel he was leaving out information. I realize this now, and I have pledged to live the rest of my days as I see fit, however short they may be. Here is the list of names that I obtained from Malfoy, you will note that among those Death Eater Wizard names, you will find a few Goblin, Werewolf, Vampire, Giant, and Troll names. I would like to request that we eradicate every last knut that every Wizard bastard on that list has in this Bank. I don't know if you are willing to do that, but I feel that it would greatly help our cause if we bankrupted the Death Eaters as much as possible. Not to mention that this war is going to be costly, why not use their bloody sin money for good for once." asked Harry as he handed over the parchment with a hopeful look on his face.

Whiplock seemed to be in deep thought as he stared at the parchment while Harry looked over to Neville who simply shrugged that he didn't know what to say either. After several more awkward

minutes passed in silence, Whiplock finally set the parchment down on his desk and stared Harry in the eyes before he spoke.

“Seeing how you are the richest Wizard in possibly all of the world, and the list of Death Eater holdings is quite substantial, I feel that setting up a separate vault with half of their holdings should be proficient enough to fund this war for you and your loyal supporters. The remaining half will go the Goblin Nation as payment for the all the wrongs those Death Eaters have caused my people. I hope this will satisfy you?” asked Whiplock in a very monotone voice.

“It is more then acceptable Whiplock, please understand that by no means am I trying to gain more gold by doing this. My main purpose of asking this is to remove it away from those Death Eaters, that way they can not use it for Ministry Bribe money or to wreck further havoc upon the wizarding community. I feel that half of their holdings is too much, therefore I request you store twenty percent in a separate vault, and have the account under Lord Narrow’s name. Will that be suitable Branch Manger?” asked Harry. He had a feeling that asking to empty those Death Eater vaults was going to cause some problems, but he didn’t want to give the impression that he was trying to increase his own holdings. Judging by Whiplock’s reaction, he knew he said the right thing.

“That is more then suitable Lord Harrington, you are a very noble and honorable young Lord, I will set that up immediately and have the key ready for Lord Narrow before your departure. As for the Goblin’s that are on this parchment, they will be dealt with today, but the rest non-wizard folk that are listed, some are quite high ranking individuals within their communities. It seems Voldemort knew what he was doing when he went recruiting. It will be much harder to vanquish those supporters as oppose to the Human Death Eaters, any suggestions on how you plan on achieving that?” asked Whiplock

“ I have a few ideas that would take too much time to discuss at this time, I do have a plan that will help eliminate the Human Death Eaters you spoke of. At some point, a good majority of those Death Eaters will come here to the bank to replenish their gold pouches, if you were to empty their vaults but on paper leave it to appear that nothing has changed. Then you have some of your amazing Goblin

Guards waiting for them inside their vaults, and when they enter, they never return. It would be the easiest way to eliminate them one at a time, what do you think?" asked Harry as Neville grinned stupidly.

"That is quite dubious of you Lord Harrington, but absolutely brilliant as well. It is just the kind of sneaky we Goblins love, but it must never get out, wouldn't want humans to be scared to bank with us. I think a few Goblin Guards would be willing to put that plan into motion for us." said Whiplock with a grin.

"Excellent, I can not thank you and your people enough for all you have and are willing to due to aide me in this cause, I will be forever grateful to the Goblin Nation, and remain at your beckon call if you ever need my assistance, please contact Prongs and he will bring me to your side immediately, no matter how busy I may be. Also remember, those are the names of the Goblins Malfoy knew, there could be other's that Malfoy did not know, please only inform those you truly trust. With everything else settled, do you think we can head down to the vaults to obtain this valued treasure of Lord Snake Face?" said Harry as Whiplock just stared at Harry in disbelief of the declaration he just heard.

Neville pulled his wand again and cast the canceling charms on the office, this seemed to snap the Branch Manager back to reality.

Coming back to his senses, Whiplock rose out of his chair and called for Gladstone, who came running in from just outside as soon as he heard his name. He handed him several parchments and gave orders to start emptying those Death Eater vaults while setting up Lord Narrow's new one. After that task had begun, Whiplock motioned for Harry and Neville to follow him out of his office. Upon Exiting the two Goblin Guards that were stationed outside his office, took the lead while another two guards appeared from no where and took the rear. Gladstone sent several notices flying off in all directions of the bank before running back to catch up to the small group that was making it's way towards the vaults. Gladstone stopped right by Whiplock's side as Harry and Neville followed right behind.

After a rather lengthy cart ride, the small group made it to the front of vault number 217. Harry wasn't sure why this small cup was so

important to Voldermort but if he was willing to risk something that has never been done before like attacking the Goblins on their home soil to retrieve it, Harry was going to do everything in his power to make sure it is never reunited with old Snakeface.

Upon reaching the door to vault number 217, the Goblin guards were performing some type of magic in front of the door while the others waited. Immediately upon finishing, one Goblin guard turned and addressed Whiplock.

“My Lord, I do not think it wise for you to enter into this vault, there is something extremely evil inside, I am not sure of what it is, but it is some type of evil I have not sensed before.” said the Goblin Guard.

Whiplock thought about that for a second and was about to dismiss the idea when Harry interrupted him.

“I agree with your Guards Branch Manager, you are too important to risk something unfortunate happening, Frank and I will enter and investigate. Whatever is inside was awfully important to Riddle and I am feeling a little nervous as to the extremes he will take to retrieve it. Whoever he managed to turn towards his side, will soon get word that we are investigating down in the vaults if you know what I mean. Said James cryptically.

“That is correct Branch Manager Sir, It would be wise for you to call back up here immediately with Guards that you can trust, just in case, better to be safe then sorry. They already tried to end your life force once, I refuse to let them try again, at least not while James and I have anything to say about it.” Smirked Neville

“You two are wise beyond your years, excuse me if I am little taken back by your compassion, it is unusual for humans to think about Goblins welfare before their own, but I should have known to expect no less from the ...Harrington and Narrow Heir’s.” Smirked Whiplock after the shock from both Harry and Neville’s statements passed, then he looked to his Head Goblin Guard before continuing.

“ Gladstone, please have twenty of your most trusted men stand guard at this vault at once, if anyone is going to try and prevent Lord

Harrington from destroying what ever evil is in this vault, they will have to go through me personally. You two Guards will enter the vault with the young Lords and will protect them with your lives and obey every command they give you without question. I recommend waiting to enter until backup has arrived." finished Whiplock as Gladstone immediately sent word for twenty of his best warriors to vault 217 as both of the Goblin Guards that were appointed to enter the vault with Harry and Neville bowed down at the feet of the young Lords.

Before Harry could tell both Goblin Guards that they did not have to bow to him, they were interrupted by twenty fierce looking Goblin Guards complete in battle armor and ready for war as they surrounded the vault entrance and bowed at the feet of both Gladstone and Whiplock.

Gladstone informed the Guards what to expect as Harry, Neville, and both Goblin Guards prepared to enter the Vault, wands at the ready. Harry gave one final nod to Whiplock as one of the two Goblin Guards unsealed the door. As it completely opened, an eerie aura was felt by all four upon their entrance. The vault was rather large and seemed to be packed with various items along with stacks of gold mixed in randomly. Just as Harry began to concentrate, he was interrupted by Gladstone.

"Wait....I will take the place of this guard. I owe Lord Harrington my protection." said Gladstone.

Whiplock agreed then Harry closed his eyes and focused his magic on pinpointing the evil presence. After only several seconds of focusing his will power magic, Harry pointed the way down the small vault corridor that lead towards the back that had smaller chambers stemming off from it. Gladstone took the lead at the front and the other took the back with the two teen Lords sandwiched in between, the small group made their way down the dark corridor lit by Neville's wand as Harry had his at the ready.

As they walked further and further deep within the vault, Harry could feel the evil presence grow stronger and stronger. As they reached the end of the narrow corridor, the small group waited for Harry to decide which direction to go. As the Gladstone peered into the room

towards the left, he could see various items and small stacks of gold stacked here and there, but most importantly, he could feel a strong presence of dark magic. He suggested that they search that room just as the Goblin at the rear said the same thing about the room towards the right. Neville figured with so many dark artifacts stored within this vault, they might as well search both, that was what he was about to suggest when he looked up towards Harry and the concentration that was expressed clearly across his face.

“Wait a minute, I don’t think what we are looking for is any either room, I think what we’re looking for, is somehow hidden this way.” finished Harry as he pointed at the wall where the narrow corridor dead ended.

The two Goblin’s walked cautiously towards the end of the hallway and raised both hands towards the wall. As their hands glowed bright white before they both took several steps back as they declared that Harry was right, there was something hidden past that wall.

Harry stepped up to the front as the three others took several steps back. Harry closed his eyes in deep concentration thinking hard as to what he needed. He wasn’t sure how he was going to do it, he only knew that whatever was hidden behind that wall was somehow extremely important, and he didn’t have spare time to waste. Any minute Voldemort could send more supporters to obtain this important artifact, and how often does one have the Head Goblin in London along with twenty Goblin Guards watching your back. Thinking very hard, Harry used every ounce of will magic he had within him, he was concentrating so deeply he could almost feel his magical core growing. Suddenly he felt his magic overflowing, just waiting to be unleashed. Harry raised his wand at the wall as a bright light blasted out from his wand towards the wall, so bright that everyone had to shield their faces at the intense light that blinded almost everyone. As the light finally faded, the foursome were blinking away the stars as the tears fell from their eyes and were astonished at what lay before them. Where there once stood a dead end hallway was now a small open room no larger than a broom closet, and the only thing that resided in this small little room was none other than a small golden Cup.

The dark magic that was emanating from that small room was breath taking. It was so strong that Neville took several steps back as did the Goblin Guards. Harry wanted too as well, but he was determined to retrieve that artifact and destroy it before Snakeface could get his greasy little hands on it. Time was running out and suddenly Harry was feeling intense weight of pressure. He had to destroy the cup, he just knew it, even if he wasn't sure why it was important to Riddle. Something deep within him connected with this object for some strange reason and it just leaked from him what needed to be done. He just needed more time to think this trough. Harry entered the small little room and reached for the cup before suddenly he froze, everyone in the hallway froze as well. The still air pause that followed the next few seconds seemed to stretch on for a lifetime. Was Harry hit with some spell, curse, or ward or did he just pause in retrospect?

“That’s it!! “ screamed Harry suddenly. Neville let out a quick little squeal in surprise, even the two Warrior Goblins flinched at the suddenness of it. The three warriors standing in the hallway collected themselves as Harry reversed back into the hallway and approached Neville.

“What is it mate? Is it like crazy warded or something, I mean the evil radiating from that closet is kinda spooky, you know? “ Said Neville as he stared into Harry’s face only to smirk as he watched the wicked grin spread wider and wider across Harry’s face.

“Oh boy, I know that look. He’s bloody on to something that’s gonna hugely help us here, watch this.” said Neville under his breath to the two Goblin Guards.

Harry reached to his wrist and pulled out Harrington Two and set it on the ground. He enlarged it with a smile as suddenly Neville was beginning to catch on.

“Bloody Brilliant!” declared Neville “Now we make time work for us!” he finished

“Exactly” said Harry as he looked towards the two confused Goblin Guards.

Harry opened the lid with the touch of his hand print, then Neville approached and walked down, pausing for only a second to hear Harry's command, and then he disappeared down the trunk while the two Goblin Guards were still slightly confused. In the magical world, having multi-compartment trunks are actually quite common among the upper-class of wizarding society, but what good would one offer in this situation is what had the two Goblin Guards so confused.

"If you two would please step forward and place your hands on the lid of this trunk, I will temporarily key you in to it's security system, thus allowing you two to enter until our time is up and we leave. Please take warning, that this will only grant you permission to do so for this one instance only, to try to gain entrance any other time without proper consent by me or my acquaintances, would result in tragic consequences." Harry finished as the Two Goblin Guards nodded that they understood, approached the trunk, and after several seconds where Harry was mumbling something incoherent, they followed Neville into the trunk, with Harry following while closing the lid.

The two Goblin Guards walked down a small set of stairs and into a plain white hallway. At the end of the hallway, stood a Large Purple Door with a bright white Potter Crest emblem blazing in the center. Neville was at the door and was holding the door knob now for several seconds before the white Potter crest flashed, and the door un-clicked and swung open. The two Goblin Guards entered the room and stopped suddenly, jaws dropping almost hitting the floor. Harry had to push them forward a little bit so he could close the door and he silently smirked to himself at their reactions.

"Lord Harrington, what is this place? Are we still in your trunk or have we transported somewhere else?" asked Gladstone as the other was turning slowly, taking in all that was around him.

"We are still in my trunk." said Harry with a smirk before continuing; " Welcome to my personal Library, please come this way, where we can sit and discuss our available options." finished Harry with a smile.

Harry lead the way out of the Library's entrance and over to a small conference table where there were small leather couches and

recliners off to the side. Harry walked over to the table and pulled out a chair and waited for his guests to each approach a seat and sit, after a few minutes, the Goblins jaws slowly closed and finally took their seats. As Harry was about to speak, they were interrupted by a fifth person, Dobby.

The two Goblin Guards flinched at the sudden appearance of the House Elf, but they knew enough about his power to ever speak their minds about being startled the way they had.

“Excellent Prongs, did everything go as we had planned?” asked Harry with a smile that only grew larger as the proud House Elf beamed right back.

“Oh yes Mast....James! Even better then we had planned....I would say.” smiled Dobby

“Great, we are going to need some of that knowledge ...at least I am hoping. Now on to the issue at hand. Whatever that object is, we all know the Evil radiating from that cup is very powerful, and very rare. Although not as rare as you might think. I felt a very familiar pull to it at first. A pull that was very similar to another dark artifact I had the unfortunate circumstances to come across.....Riddle’s Diary.”

The four others at hearing this paused while holding their breaths. After several seconds, Harry continued.

“What we are going to do is research as much as we can before we exit this trunk and do what must be done, and that is to destroy that cup like I destroyed that diary.” Harry finished.

The five spread out over the conference table as Dobby brought book after book on dark artifacts from the Potter Family Vault and began researching all they could.

MEANWHILEIN GRIMMAULD PLACE

Making his way down in the basement of Number Twelve Grimmauld Place, looking extremely flustered, was none other then Albus Dumbledore. With his standard bright blue robes with flashy gold and

silver stars shooting all across them. He made his way over towards the head of the long table sitting in the large kitchen, as he walked by, he caught glimpses of conversations until he finally reached his chair. The moment the Headmaster sat down, all conversations ceased.

“Thank you everyone for attending this meeting on such short notice, there has been several issues come up that I am afraid we must deal with promptly.” declared Dumbledore before he was interrupted by a loud shrilling voice down the other end of the table.

“ Albus, are we going to discuss Order business right away? Because if so, I absolutely refuse for the children to attend, this is adult conversation and I want to know why you have them in here?” yelled Molly Weasley.

“Now Now Molly, calm down, I have initiated Ron and Hermione into the order this summer and have already appointed them a task in which they have already started working on.” said Dumbledore as Molly was about to interrupt him again before He continued.

“I have not made this decision lightly Molly, but as Leader of this group, I’m afraid my word is final on this issue. There are dark and difficult days ahead of us, make no mistake, we are at war here, whether the Ministry chooses to believe it or not. I know some of you may think that they are still students, but may I remind you that when we started this group during Voldermort’s first reign of terror, how many students did we see initiated that first summer? These two students are no ordinary students and have been chosen for their remarkable talents.” finished the Headmaster as Ron and Hermione beamed at his remarks.

Molly, realizing that she was not going to win this argument, promptly sat back down although she kept a frown upon her face. Dumbledore smiled at this small victory and soldiered on.

“Now, back to Order business, our first priority is to debrief everyone present on the Gringotts incident. Moody, what is the latest?” asked Dumbledore

“ Not a whole lot Albus, the Goblins are refusing any human entrance, and have closed the bank for the next two or three days for repairs they say. When I asked about how much damage was done or by whom, they got real quiet and told us if we had any further inquiries, to forward them to the Assistant Bank Manager and he will respond to them as soon as he finds the time. After I yelled and asked more questions, I even demanded entrance due to Ministry business, they just smirked and replied that the incident that occurred, happened, INSIDE the bank, meaning the Ministry has no jurisdiction. After further research, it appears they are correct, anything happening INSIDE the bank, the Goblins have total control, only if they so choose to, will they involve us or the Ministry.” finished Moody with a disgruntled look on his face.

“Very well, Thank You Moody. Now... from what I have gathered myself, it appears that the incident was another plan of Voldermorts. What he was trying to achieve is beyond me at the moment, however, I do know that somehow, his plan was thwarted. From what Professor Snape tells me, He is extremely upset and it is estimated that he lost somewhere between twenty and fifty men.” There were many gasps and quick chattering at hearing the Headmasters findings.

“ Well of course he lost all his men, who would be dumb enough to attack the Goblins and in their own bank for that matter, I bet the Goblins made quick work of those Death Eaters.” said McGonagall.

“That is true Professor, however, from what I gathered, the first reports came back to camp just as planned, which means that the Death Eaters got past the Goblin protection and their Guards but were then somehow blind sided by a renegade clan. The Dark Lord could not gather any information as to whom to blame, apparently it happened so quick, we never got word of any of it from any of the people the Dark Lord sent. It was like somehow, almost instantaneous, several Death Eaters just disappeared. The Dark Lord assumes that the clan responsible, must have been rather numerous to pull that off, instinctively, I thought it was some of you, or at least the Headmaster.” finished Snape

“Well do you at least know why Lord Voldermort sent so many men to attack Gringotts in the first place?” asked Shacklebolt

"I do not. He only told the one leading the mission as to what the final perimeters of the mission was. I only know that they were to retrieve something, as to what that something is, I have no idea." declared Snape

"Do you know who the person was that was leading the mission?" asked McGonagall

"Yes I do, Lucius Malfoy" Snape sneered

The collective gathering gasped at hearing that bit of information, Arthur and Molly slowly let little smiles glance across their faces. They only hoped that before he left this plane, he felt as much pain as possible.

"Very well, I will look into what they were trying to obtain when I meet with the Goblin Council in the next few days. Let us move on to another pressing issue. There will be many changes occurring this coming school year at Hogwarts. First, let me introduce you all, again, to our new potions Professor, Horace Slughorn." announced Dumbledore

Professor Slughorn stood up and gave a little wave and then promptly sat down. The others began whispering to themselves that if he was the new potions Professor, where did that leave Snape?

Dumbledore cleared his throat to regain everyone's attention as he continued.

"With Horace here taking over potions, we will have a reassignment of sorts, taking over the Defense Against the Dark Arts classes will be Professor Snape. Now, let us move on to the main reason for this meeting. As you know, with the passing of Sirius Black, certain complications have arisen. First, we do not know for sure who is in line to inherit the Black Fortune and that includes Grimmauld Place. The Goblins refuse to let me in on who Sirius named as his beneficiary, one could only hope, and with that assume, that he named Harry his benefactor. Speaking of Harry, he is in a very unstable position right now. From what little the Goblins have told me,

he is invited to the will reading, so we will need to plan his guard to make sure he arrives safely. We can only assume that Voldermort knows of the will reading through his connection to the Malfoy's, if he were to plan an attack on Harry, that would be the ideal time to do so."

"Albus, wouldn't it be better for Harry and for us, to have him moved in here, where he can be with his friends and protected by the Order. Surely at a time like this, he should not be left alone with his dark thoughts and those horrible muggles." asked McGonagall.

"I am afraid that will be impossible, he needs to remain at Privet Drive until the wards protecting him there are fully charged. What I am most concerned about is this sudden independence that Harry has displayed. Ron, Hermione, why don't you give us a status update in that regards." asked Dumbledore

Ron seemed to beam with pride at the mention of his name, he had the floor and was very important to the Order, something he always longed for. Hermione on the other hand was just the opposite, she seemed to be very troubled by this turn of events, her facial expression seemed to show a strong case of confusion, an almost inner battle of wills occurring. Fred and George seemed to notice this conflict Hermione was struggling with as they glared daggers at their younger Brother.

"We have not seen Harry leave the property of Number 4, he does walk out to the backyard on several occasions, but he never leaves. He was also visited by Neville Longbottom the other day and looked like it was not the first time he has visited." said Ron

"That is very concerning, has Harry ever talked about any of his friends visiting him at Privet Drive other then you two?" asked Albus

It was Hermione who answered, " Harry doesn't talk about his time at Privet Drive, never. I always wondered why that was but something tells me that you have a very good idea as to why that is Headmaster?"

"Hmmm, I do have my assumptions. Nevertheless we must be on guard in the coming days, I have come across some rare magic at Harry's residence, the type of magic that rather intrigues me. I am afraid that with so much darkness that seems to follow young Mister Potter around, that he will soon buckle under the insurmountable weight of it all and succumb to the dark side. It is what I fear the most." said Dumbledore with a sigh.

Fred and George looked extremely upset at hearing that, and it showed by the pinst look on their faces. Remus on the other hand seemed to be lost in thought. Fred decided to look around and get a read on everyone as they pondered what the Headmaster feared the most. Most of the Order's expression were very similar to Lupin's, they were still digesting it, all except one. That really had the Weasley twin confused, something was amiss here, unless he was reading those expressions incorrectly, that one person did not agree with the thought that Harry could go dark. Of course Fred was also in agreement to that, but he did not expect that coming from Hermione. Glancing over at his brother, they came to the same conclusion together, whatever was affecting Hermione, they had a sure feeling that their little brother was somehow to blame.

For the next forty five minutes, the Order discussed their plans for escorting Harry to the will reading and everything that entails. After finishing with that, Albus called the meeting over and everyone started to slowly disperse. The twins were keeping a close eye on everyone and they watched closely as small groups formed and were having private conversations. They smiled for they knew that there was no way to have any private talks in this house today. Making eye contact with Remus, he gestured for the twins to look towards the corner of the room. Looking towards where Remus was talking about, they spotted the Headmaster talking very quickly to Snape, that is very interesting. Just a little further away, Ron was spotted having a heated conversation with Hermione. He looked very upset and was trying hard not to raise his voice, they couldn't hear what he was saying but by the way he was thrusting his hands around, you could tell he was not happy. Hermione for her part seemed to be lost in thought as Ron's face got redder and redder.

Remus nodded to the twins and made his way over towards Dumbledore as Snape left through the front door. Ron had stormed off upstairs and left Hermione standing there with a dazed look on her face. The twins told Molly and Arthur out loud so everyone could hear, that they were heading in to their store to complete the mail in orders.

Back at Gringotts

It had been twelve minutes since Harry, Neville, Dobby, and the two Goblin Guards entered Harrington Two, on the outside, but inside, the five some was completely convinced as to what that artifact truly was. Having spent the last twelve hours researching said artifact.

The Breakthrough came when Neville suggested they re-visit Harry's memory of Riddle's dairy, seeing how eerie similar Harry seemed to believe both artifacts were. After the twenty minutes spent in the Pensieve, The Two Goblin Guards and one very white faced Neville Long bottom / Frank Narrow, were shocked into silence.

" After viewing that event, I will never doubt the bravery you yield Lord Potter, I understand you want us to call you by your alias, but after viewing that memory, and in your personal Library no less, it would be great disrespect to call you anything But Lord Potter!" declared Gladstone as the other Goblin Guard was nodding his head that he agreed.

"Thank you Rock, but my friends call me Harry, never mind, I don't know why I even try?. Let us get back on track, could you sense the evil in that memory the way I could, could you feel it?" Harry asked hopefully

"I could sense the evil emanating from that book Harry, but the question is how could you let me believe that those rumors of you slaying a twenty foot Basilisk were true. I mean Bloody Hell Harry, twenty feet? That Monster was at least sixty feet long, and summoning Gryffindor's sword from the Bloody sorting hat, absolutely amazing!" finished Neville looking a little star struck.

"Snap out of it mate, that was years ago and we have bigger issues to deal with at the moment. Besides, it was easier that way, imagine

what everyone would say if they knew the truth? If they knew what I truly faced at the age of twelve, or thirteen, how about at fifteen for that matter, in fact the less people know about my life the better they will be." finished Harry

"Well mate, if we make it through this thing, I am determined to Author several books detailing everything you have gone through, all the challenges and dangers you face in an attempt to save a whole race, a whole world who is absolutely clueless to how near destruction they are." proclaimed Neville

"Gee thanks Nev, I suppose your going to want pensieve memories and official quotes and what not right?" asked Harry

"Obviously, you know, get the word straight from the horses mouth and what not." smirked Neville

"Ha Ha, that's rich Nev, I'll tell you what, if I survive this war and live long enough to dance on Riddle's grave, then I will give you every bloody detail you want and authorize any book you write, Hell, I will even do autograph signing sessions, but can we please get back to the topic at hand. It's times like these when I miss Hermione the most, she is so excellent at keeping on task." Harry finished looking somewhat sad as he exhaled.

"Right, This is what I was hoping to find, the answer we seek lies within, I believe but only you will be able to tell us that." said Rock as he handed over a small gold book to Harry.

Harry placing his hands on the book, it seemed to glow warm for a second and then there was a flash of light as he opened the book. Flipping through the pages a little curious, he glanced at the curses and spell work as he flipped. Looking up into Gladstone's eyes pleading for an explanation as to what or where to find this answer.

" If I am right, and I think I am, then Tom Riddle has in deed gone darker then even most would fear. Harry, that is a very old tomb that you are holding, I couldn't believe my eyes when I spotted it on a shelf of books your Elf removed from the Potter vaults. I could not read it because all the books in the Potter vault are charmed so that

only a Potter or anyone he allows access to, can view the words on the pages. What I believe that little gold cup, as well as that Diary, were dark, dark artifacts called HORCRUXES."

The other Goblin let out a small gasp of breath at the mention of that last word.

"Horcruxes?" asked Harry and at saying the word, the pages in the book he was still holding, began to flip and turn very fast as a flash of gold light shined bright. Suddenly the pages stopped and when Harry peered down at the words, his smile began to grow.

He was looking at not only the answer to what the cup was but how to destroy it as well.

After about another hour and half of discussing how to go about doing what they needed to, the very tired five some finally left the trunk and returned to the damp and dusty Gringotts vault. It had been only fifteen minutes since they entered but they now knew what they had to do. Neville was holding a special box that the two Goblin Guards had helped Harry create to hold the vessel, Harry levitated the small golden cup screaming of evil, down from it's shelf and into the box. After warding the box heavily, Harry had Dobby store it in his unused storage compartment in Harrington Two. As Dobby popped away to store the sealed box containg the Horcrux, the bank vault shook with severe intensity, knocking the stacks of dusty gold and scattered items sprawling all over the vault.

Harry quickly re-shrunk his trunk, then placed it back on his wrist sleeve. He then pulled his wand and began to head to the entrance with the two Goblin Guards right on his heals with their swords raised, Neville wasn't far behind them. Harry assumed the vault was warded to cause mayhem if the artifact was ever released from it's hidden location, but this was something else, Harry couldn't quite explain how he knew that, he just did. After stumbling and tripping his way back to the entrance, he finally could see the vault door and his exit into this place of evil, only problem was the epic battle that was being raged just beyond the vault door.

“Lord Whiplock!!” shouted Gladstone as he charged full speed out of the vault and headlong into the battle, his sword ablaze in a silver blur. Harry knew this wasn’t going to be easy, they had to eliminate this small faction of Goblins that aided Riddle, just As Harry was about to enter the battle himself, Dobby pooped back into the vault right before Harry.

“ Master, we have a problem! Winky has just informed me that the Headmaster is approaching Privet Drive and the girls are worried what the Headmaster will do when he see’s them there and you not.” said Dobby

“Bloody perfect! Just what I needed!” Harry half shouted and half pouted before continuing, “Tell them to enter the Trunk and to stay inside, no matter what Dumbles does, he can not gain entrance to that Trunk. I will deal with him once I get out of this bank alive.”

Dobby popped away to pass on Harry’s message.

Neville came up on Harry’s side with a small smirk on his face as he was holding out his wand forward.

“I thought today was going to be one of those days.” said Neville

“You mean one of those days where we battle unbelievable odds, against a race that are magically and physically stronger then us just to stay alive?” replied Harry

“Yeah.....one of those days.....shall we?” asked Neville with that smirk firmly in place.

“ I suppose we shall.....but for the record.....I hate those days!” said Harry

Both Harry and Neville rushed out of the bank vault and into a storm of spell fire.

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